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Weekly audited distribution (52 weeks) to 31/12/11 - 42,235
(GEM Series). Audited by David Pinder & Co Ltd. Chartered Accountants.

www.cowbridge-today.co.uk

THURSDAY, AUGUST 30TH, 2012

International Sheepdog Trials Pages 19-20

VALE SHOW RESULTS
SEE PAGE 23

'Blue badges'
Survey's shock finding
(See page 6)

EDUCATION CHIEFS SALUTE 'EXCELLENT' GCSE RESULTS

ABOVE: Pupils at Cowbridge were celebrating their GCSEs. (See page 3 for details of local students' exam results).

COUNCIL education chiefs have praised pupils and staff for "excellent results" in last week's GCSEs.

Of all papers sat in the Vale, 24.5 per cent were A* or A grades, a figure which matched the previous year.

Looking at grades A* to C, 69.8 per cent of all results were in that band, which represented a decrease from 70.2 per cent the previous year.

There was a marginal increase in A* to G grade passes, which are 98.8 per cent this year, compared to 98.7 in 2011.

The Vale Council cabinet member for children's services, Coun Chris Elmore, said: "Our schools and pupils have delivered excellent results at GCSE level and maintained our high standards.

"The council is proud of everyone's hard work and I'm sure that both pupils and parents appreciate the efforts of teaching staff. I wish all the pupils continued success for the future."

The figures are based on WJEC entries only so, because some Vale schools may use other examination boards, the final GCSE performance figures may be slightly revised in future weeks.

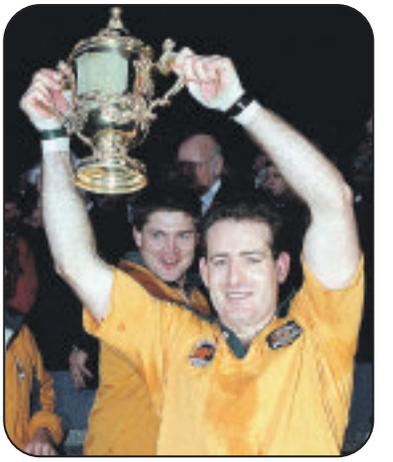
Campo's coming to coach in Cowbridge!

by TIM CHAPMAN

RUGBY union legend David Campese is to provide a coaching session for Vale youngsters in Cowbridge this October.

Campese – he of the hitch-kick and swash-buckling running, will put pupils from Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg and junior rugby players from Cowbridge RFC through their paces.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



ABOVE: Aussie legend, David Campese, lifts the Rugby World Cup in 1991.

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Complaints about Vale Show roadworks

THE Vale Council has responded to complaints that roadworks at Llysworney meant that many visitors to the Vale Show last Wednesday suffered long delays.

A number of GEM readers rang in to complain about the timing of resurfacing work at Llysworney.

One said: "I turned off the A48 on my way to the Vale Show and was held up for about 20 minutes.

"The Vale Show is one of the biggest events of the year, and I can't understand why the council decided to start work this week."

Andrew Loosemore, the Vale Council's operational manager, highways and engineering, said: *"The resurfacing was carried out at Llysworney by the council's specialist surface treatment contractor. The contractor was in the area for one day and the works were programmed between 9:30am and 3:30pm, being weather dependent.*

"A convoy traffic management system was used to monitor any congestion, and 'Stop and Go' boards were used. The contractor was made aware of the increase in traffic and this was monitored.

"The work that was carried out a Llysworney was more than sufficiently distant from the Vale Show at Fonmon, with the main routes being via the B4265, A48 and Five-Mile Lane (A4226).

"The surface dressing programme has to be delivered during the summer months and this has been severely hampered by the poor weather conditions. Therefore, every opportunity had to be taken to ensure that essential roads received the required treatment.

"The council apologises for any inconvenience experienced during this essential maintenance work."

Show worthy of the West End!

I WENT to see *Fame Jr: The Musical* at the Barry Memorial Hall on Wednesday, August 23, and it was absolutely fabulous!

Christian Bullen, director and choreographer of 'Superstars In The Making', has demonstrated his enormous gift for putting on a wonderful show.

The main cast were Ethan Whitcombe, Kirstie Fox, Rhian Neil, Lewis Norman, Louise Hall, Chaliese Ludvigsen, Jodi Bird, Joseph Mees, Millie Van-Emden, Luke Edwards, Laura Owens, Ruby Hartery, Lewis Gulliver and Rhys Lloyd, with 40 other talented performers who made up the chorus.

Each and every one brought their own unique gifts and talents to bring the characters alive, to such an extent that the audience were taken on an exciting and emotional journey, which led to the cast being given a standing ovation after the performance.

It was the best show that I've seen in years; it was so good that I recommended it to family and friends, who travelled from Cardiff and Cwmbran to see the show.

The show was so impressive, it was most people's opinion that it was worthy of being shown in the West End!

Well done, and congratulations to Christian Bullen and all of his 'Superstars In The Making' for a wonderful show!

Bev Griffiths, Plymouth.

'Be responsible for your rubbish'

UNLIKE the writer of last week's letter on 'refuse vultures', I am more than happy for the new wardens to 'stalk' potential litter louts and irresponsible dog owners.

I only wish they could do it in plain clothes rather than high visibility uniforms. Neither do I agree that the answer is more bins and street cleaners, which only adds to our council tax bills.

People should take responsibility for their own rubbish and take it home.

Ron Powell, Barry Island.

Remembering the 'hut people'

IN the immediate post-war years, with many Nissen huts suddenly being declared surplus to requirements, it was common for otherwise homeless families to occupy them, often making them into neat little homes for many years, while awaiting improved accommodation.

I know of instances of such occupations occurring in disused huts on Barry Island (on the future site of Butlins) and at Llandow, where the last couple left their hut in March 1979 (34 years after the Second World War!

Do any other GEM readers have memories or photographs of these post-war living arrangements in the Vale of Glamorgan?

It is an interesting area for research, my own interest being in the RAF locally.

Christopher Short, Barry. (Ex:RAF Regiment)

Get in touch and let us know what you think about local issues...
gemeditorial@internet-today.co.uk

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

Readers' Letters

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Faces that bring back memories of yesteryear

I HAVE read with interest, the recent GEM article submitted by Mac Wilcox, concerning Barry's Olympic celebrations of yesteryear.

I visited Mac Wilcox at his residence in St Nicholas and discussed with him my research project 'The History of Gladstone School, Barry'.

Like Mac, I am an old boy of the school, but from an earlier era. Mac has kindly let me have on loan his original photo (above), previously published in The GEM.

In my research discussions with several 'Old Gladstonians', we have now come up with quite a few names to place with faces. The photo was taken after the annual Secondary School Sports Day at the Athletic Ground, Barry Island in June 1951.

Mac recollects that there were several lads who did not live in the immediate catchment area of Gladstone School.

Apparently, a bus would leave Barry and travel down Five Mile Lane, then via St Nicholas, The Downs, Culverhouse Cross, St Fagan's and Peterston-super-Ely, picking up boys and girls on the way and then return to Barry.

The boys were dropped off at Gladstone School and the girls at Holton School. The journey back home was enjoyed more than the one to school.

On behalf of The 'Old Gladstonians' I now offer these further names to put to the faces:

Back Row: (*unknown*), David Williams, (unknown), (*unknown*), Stan Eveleigh, Ken Chamberlain, Brian Adams, Brian Everitt, Paul McAuley, Davis Saif, (*unknown*).

Middle Row: (unknown), Ossie Fahiya, Brian Ankara, Malcolm Bowen, Graham Wells, Fred Svenson, Bev Harrison, J Greenway, Gwyn James, (*unknown*), Brian Lloyd, John Watkins, (*unknown*).

Front Row: Tony Evans, (unknown), Jimmy Condick, David Hurman, Billy Harris, (*unknown*), Brian Foster, Gareth Motton, Mac Wilcox, Trevor Holmes.

John Chucas, Barry

***FOOTNOTE:** Can you help with the final few names to put to the faces in the photograph? If so, contact The GEM the help put the final pieces in to the jigsaw.*

'Fed up' with the EU regulations

I GUESS, like a lot of people, I am getting really fed up with the rules and regulations that we have to put up with from the EU.

I really wish the UK Government would show some guts and start sticking up for the people of this country.

We now have a situation where they want more bins for more items to be recycled separately. They have also threatened councils with heavy fines if they don't comply.

Who on earth do they think they are?

They are unelected parasites who should be told where to stick their rules and regulations.

DJ Radford Barry

Eisteddfod choir member's thanks

MAY I, through your letters page, say a huge thank you to all those involved in this year's National Eisteddfod at Llandow in the Vale.

I would especially like to thank Eleri Roberts and Euros Rhys Evans: I joined the Eisteddfod Choir early in 2011 and attended rehearsals at Tabernacle Chapel, Barry until the week of the Eisteddfod.

Eleri and Euros worked tirelessly to prepare us for an amazing weekend on the maes – from the Saturday evening concert to the Sunday morning service and, finally, the wonderful Gymanfa Ganu.

I am not a Welsh speaker (although my two daughters are) but I am able to read and pronounce the Welsh words, even though I do not always understand them.

This has been a wonderful experience for me, as I am sure it was for the other members of the Eisteddfod Choir.

So, thank you once again, Eleri and Euros, and all the accompanists at rehearsals – as well as others involved in the whole amazing journey.

(Name and address supplied)

Praise for the organisers

I MUST compliment the Eisteddfod organising committee for a smooth non-intrusive event at Llandow.

I note that the attendance was said to be 140,000, spread over the week, but how many of the daily attendance were repeat visitors?

How many were resident outside the immediate south Wales area? How many of the visitors were 'Eisteddfod virgins'? Just curious.

John Owen, Cowbridge.

POWER OF A LETTER TO THE EDITOR!

I WONDER if your readers realise just what power a letter to the Editor has?

Newspapers (including The GEM) recently printed my letter seeking those who had served in the Royal Navy, at the massive 197-acre Shore Establishment HMS Collingwood at Fareham in Hampshire.

The plan is to reunite with old shipmates through the HMS Collingwood Association, possibly meeting up again at one of the reunions we hold every year, or even joining one of the visits to HMS Collingwood to see the changes.

Well, they came out of the woodwork – which was what was hoped for –as I doubt if there is a single hamlet or village in the UK, which has not had someone serve there, since it was commissioned in January 1940, and up to the present day.

The power of my letter to the Editor has even brought responses from those who volunteered their services back in World War II, to serve for the duration of the present conflict, as it was expressed on their service documents.

Lots of them wondered how many of their trainee shipmates survived the war.

Take the 91-year-old sister of one of those killed when a bomb dropped on an accommodation hut in 1943, killing 31: He had been in the Royal Navy for only 17 days and under early stages of training; the cook who met the Wren in the Pay Office and has now been married to her for 54 years; the daughter of one of the captains who was challenged when she tried to ride her horse through the main gates.

After the war, HMS Collingwood became the home of the Radio, Radar and Electrical Branch and the cooks, pay clerks and stores personnel, were now providing administration for those under technical and practical training for the Electrical Branch, and subsequent derivatives.

Many of the latter return to HMS Collingwood, on a number of occasions for courses linked to promotion.

Any reader who didn't see my first letter, or put it to one side to be dealt with later and would love to swing the lamp again, can contact me, at 7 Heath Road, Sandown, Isle of Wight PO36 8PG or on mike.crowe1@btinternet.com (that is crowe number 1) for either the HMS Collingwood Association or the Royal Naval Electrical Branch Association. When did you serve and who are you looking for?

Knowing the power of the press, and the response from letters to the Editor, I look forward to receiving many interesting topics, and the prospect of reuniting many shipmates.

Mike Crowe, Isle of Wight.

Tennis highs

I WAS delighted to read last week about the continued success of Dinas Powys Tennis Club's annual charity tournament.

As a long-standing member of the club, I'd like to add my congratulations to all involved and to thank Chris Bevan for his enormous contribution to this wonderful event, which has raised so much money over the years for many worthwhile causes.

Gerwyn Williams, Dinas Powys.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL SEPTEMBER 6)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
30 Thur	06.11	9.3	18.35	9.7
31 Fri	07.00	9.5	19.17	10.0
01 Sat	07.37	9.7	19.58	10.1
02 Sun	08.14	9.8	20.33	10.0
03 Mon	08.51	9.9	21.06	9.8
04 Tues	09.21	9.7	21.38	9.6
05 Wed	09.52	9.3	22.11	9.2
06 Thur	10.21	9.2	22.41	8.7

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Published by: Glamorgan GEM Ltd., 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge. CF71 7EL. Printed by NWN Ltd.
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Cowbridge Comprehensive's 'outstanding' GCSEs results

FOLLOWING the outstanding A-Level results two weeks ago, Cowbridge Comprehensive School was again celebrating last week.

This time it was due to the superb GCSE results.

The school was delighted that students achieved so well at all levels, including a large number of students achieving the top grades A*/A.

Overall, students achieved a 98.4 per cent pass rate at A*-G and 89 per cent A*-C.

It was pleasing that the overall performance of boys was equal to the overall performance of girls, and in many indicators the achievement of boys was higher.

This bucked the national trend which indicates that boys' performance is about 10 per cent lower than girls'.

The headteacher, Mrs Debra Thomas, said: "There have been many outstanding individual achievements but what matters most is the progress of each student.

"My congratulations go to the students, and my gratitude to the teachers and parents who have supported them so well in their preparations for these examinations.

"We look forward to welcoming students to pursue their academic excellence in the sixth form."

Wow! St Hilary pupil shares GCSE joy with proud parents

Proud parents Phil and Cheryl go through William's GCSE results with him at Christ College, Brecon.

WILLIAM THOMAS from St Hilary, near Cowbridge, earned seven A*s, three As and a B; bravely opening his results envelope in front of parents Phil and Cheryl, at Christ College, Brecon.

William reported: "These are much better than I expected. I worked as hard as I possibly could this year, but you just don't know until you open the envelope. Wow!"

Phil, a former Christ College pupil, said: "This is a magnificent set of results. I daren't take my sunglasses off as you'll see the tears in my eyes."

MP thanks The GEM for backing family's fundraising campaign

Dad, daughter (and buggy) on the road again!

REPORT by TIM CHAPMAN

CARDIFF race organisers, who had 'health and safety' concerns about a Llantwit Major father to running with his daughter in a buggy, have had a rethink.

Lyn Thomas raises money for the CF Trust on fun runs, and takes along 18-month-old Nancy, who has cystic fibrosis, to inspire her to run in the future and for the health benefits it provides her.

Two weeks ago, The GEM reported how Lyn and Nancy had already completed the TATA Cardiff Bay earlier in the year without any mishap, but the organisers of 10k events in Cardiff and Swansea said they had safety concerns.

Local MP, Alun Cairns thanked The GEM for helping to publicise Lyn and Nancy's frustration which has now ended in them being able to continue their charity raising efforts.

Organisers of the Cardiff 10k and the Cardiff Half Marathon have said 'dad, daughter and buggy' are welcome!

Lyn said: "I wanted to thank The GEM for being so supportive of my campaign to be able to take part with Nancy in these local fun runs and races across south Wales."

The solution has been for Lyn to start near the front of the field so he isn't having to negotiate a route with the buggy route through the larger number of slower runners.

He explained: "I've now been accepted for both Cardiff races and will be able to discuss my starting position with them so that it falls in line with my run times.

"It means that I won't have to try and steer Nancy and the buggy around the slower runners. That could, of course have been considered a risk.

"Exercise is not just important for Nancy, it is imperative to keep her lungs healthy, and may prevent her needing a lung transplant at a relatively young age and extend her life.

"I am determined to give her every opportunity to enjoy running, first as passenger and hopefully as a runner when she is a little older."

And there has been even more good news for Lyn.

"I've also had six other people from Llantwit contact me asking if they can join the 'Running with Nancy' team which is fantastic and will help raise even more money for the CF Trust."

Lyn is now hoping that an agreement can be struck with the organisers of the 10k race in Swansea.

The Vale MP, Alun Cairns had taken the matter up with race organisers himself.

Mr Cairns pointed out: "While running last year's London Marathon, I was overtaken regularly by many people dressed in the most elaborate costumes.

"Some people were chained together and others were running in tandem.

"It is difficult to believe that someone pushing a buggy, is such a health and safety threat."

Mr Cairns said restricting Lyn and Nancy's runs at a time when the Olympics and Paralympics were enthralling the nation was hardly the best timing.

He added: "I was delighted to hear that both the Cardiff 10K and Cardiff Half Marathon organisers are now happy to accommodate the request for Lyn and Nancy to run with a buggy in their events this autumn.

"Lyn is determined to share the enjoyment of running with Nancy to help alleviate some of the symptoms of her condition, and to raise money for charity and help change attitudes towards cystic fibrosis."

ABOVE:
Two weeks ago, Lyn and Nancy's charity raising runs looked in danger, but following an intervention by Vale MP Alun Cairns, and publicity in The GEM, race organisers have reached an accommodation with Lyn.

Gathering place

THE weekly coffee mornings will re-start from 10am-12noon at The Gathering Place, St Athan on Tuesday September 4, with freshly brewed ground coffee for only £1.

Tea, toast, cakes and biscuits are also on offer. The Gathering Place is a great venue to meet up with friends for a chat and to make new ones; toys available for the children to play with.

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TRIBUTES PAID TO CHARITY FOUNDER

Lucy Dickenson – *'a joy and an inspiration to all those who knew her'*

by TIM CHAPMAN

Lucy Dickenson, the inspirational Vale campaigner who founded a charity and devoted her life to helping people across the globe, died last week in a car crash in Zambia.

Lucy, who lived in Barry, was just 32 years old, but in her short life had left a legacy that will continue for many years to come.

She founded the SAFE Foundation in 2007 to help provide grants and materials to relieve poverty in developing countries.

From her experience of working in countries such as Uganda, Rwanda and Mongolia, she had discovered that remote or small projects had difficulty getting mainstream aid – that was where the foundation, which she ran with twin sister Hannah, stepped in.

SAFE Foundation projects are on-going in a number of countries including Uganda, Cambodia, India, Ghana and the UK.

The staff of the Safe Foundation issued a statement late last week on its website which read:

"It is with such deep sorrow that we have to share the terrible news of Lucy's passing following a car accident in Zambia on Monday, August 20.

ABOVE: Lucy Dickenson and her sister Hannah, performing at Barry Waterfront in 2009.

"We want to say thank you to everyone for showing their love for Lucy and giving their support to the Dickenson family.

"The SAFE Foundation is one of the legacies Lucy has left behind.

"Hannah and we will strive to continue the wonderful work in her honour.

"We will update with details of the funeral for anyone wishing to come to pay their respects and to celebrate Lucy's incredible life.

"She will be so very greatly missed by us all..."

In her many journeys throughout the world, compassion for the people she met was foremost in her mind as Professor Stephen Tomlinson, the chairman of Vale for Africa, told The GEM: "Lucy and the SAFE Foundation worked together with Vale for Africa as partners.

"Lucy was a trustee of Vale for Africa and I have known her from the beginning of our partnership four years ago.

"She was a joy; she brightened up any room she entered.

"She was truly inspirational and cared deeply for the poor, the sick and the disadvantaged,especially children in Africa and Asia.

"She died while helping those in most desperate need in Zambia.

"However, I shall remember her as she was – very special, giving me a huge, delighted, happy hug at the annual Goldstar Awards Ceremony just a month ago, after we had both received commendations on behalf of our charities,the SAFE Foundation and Vale for Africa."

Professor Tomlinson added: "Lucy's legacy is our responsibility.

"We should celebrate her life and achievements and must ensure her work continues."

Lucy's interests included music – she and Hannah performed as the band Amber Hour – dance, history and walking.

But it is as an inexhaustible campaigner against world poverty that she will be remembered, not only in Barry, and Cardiff where the SAFE Foundation is based, but across the developing world.

For information on the SAFE Foundation, please go to: www.thesafefoundation.co.uk

Local man who brought the Olympic news to us all!

by PHILIP IRWIN

A LLANTWIT MAJOR man is taking a well-earned rest – after spending the Olympics working with a Cardiff-based company that was an integral part of the BBC coverage of the Games.

Ian Ball, from Llantwit Major, works freelance for Goleudy, a company based in Culverhouse Cross, which won the contract to provide and operate all the technical equipment used when the BBC set up its nerve centre in a tower block just outside the Olympic village.

It meant that Goleudy was one Welsh company that managed to benefit from the Olympics, and the bulk of the company's staff were from south Wales, including Llantwit Major and Bridgend.

The BBC chose the tower block for its views of the Olympic park, and for Ian and his work colleagues, that was as near as they got!

Ian said: "It was a very intensive few weeks, and we didn't get the chance to spend time in the park. Passes were like gold dust

"There were so many people in the park. In the morning, we would see a huge queue form outside MacDonalds at 7.30am, and it would last all day!

"However, medal winners and other people in the news came to the news centre, so we had the chance to meet quite a few.

"For my work colleagues and I, it was a great experience at an unforgettable event that I will never see in this country again in my lifetime."

In his time with the company, Ian has done a variety of outside broadcast work – including the State Opening of Parliament!

It is a career progression that Ian did not foresee when he took a course in Bridgend College more than 10 years ago.

However, he threw himself into training for his new career, even working nights at the Jane Hodge Home near Cowbridge to support himself while he studied.

Since then, as his Olympics' experience proves, he never knows what he might be doing in a few months time.

In the shorter term, of course, he does know what is in the pipeline and now, after recharging his batteries and recovering from the long hours worked at the Olympics, he is preparing for a different kind of sporting event – the annual political party conferences!

ABOVE: Ian Ball with Olympic cycling gold medallist Jo Rowsell.

ABOVE: Technician Suzanne Sanders from Bridgend meets Dizzee Rascal!

ABOVE: Ian Ball with Jamie Lynn Grey, the USA gold medallist in three-position rifle shooting.

LECTURES WHET THE APPETITE FOR HISTORY

HAVING witnessed the the sporting excellence of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and experienced the intellectual stimulus of the National Eisteddfod on the doorstep, the Llantwit Major Local History Society is delighted to announce its Lecture Programme for 2012-13 with the promise that the speakers will match the medal winning performances of the summer.

The talks will commence on Wednesday, September 12 in the Town Hall at 7.30pm, when Graham Phillimore will speak on 'Daniel Jones of Woodford and Beaupre'.

Jones became one of the most prominent landowners and lawyers in the Vale, and was central in establishing Cardiff Royal Infirmary.

On October 10 the Venerable Phillip Morris will give a talk on 'Ewenny's many churches', while on November 14, Adam Gwilt from the National Museum of Wales will report on the recent discoveries that have been made by archaeologists in the area.

The society's chairman, Nigel Williams, has chosen a rather unseasonable topic for the December meeting – 200 years of holidaymaking in the Vale. This will be followed, not by ice cream and candyfloss, but by mince pies!

Weather is a favourite topic of conversation so there should be plenty of interest in the talk on January 9, 'Learning from Sabrina – The Great Flood of 1607', given by Dr Mark Lewis of Caerleon.

On February 13, Prof Chris Williams of Swansea will take time off from editing the diaries of Richard Burton to speak on J M Staniforth, one of the first cartoonists for the Western Mail.

Membership of the society is £4, payable at the September meeting.

To those fans of the society's publications, the wait for 'Llantwit Major Aspects of its History Vol 12' will be very short. Hopefully, it will be available in October. For the 'grey surfers', the society's new web site is up and running, www.llantwitmajorhistorysociety.co.uk.

St Richard Gwyn's record GCSE results

ST RICHARD GWYN Catholic High School has achieved its best results ever, thanks to the hard work of all the students and staff at the school.

The students achieved 81 per cent A*-C grade

The school is especially pleased with the performance of the boys, as they exceeded expectations.

Every student will be leaving St Richard Gwyn with a qualification. The top performers were Jessica Caterson, who achieved 11A*; Donna Thomas 8A* and 3As; Theresia James 8A* and 3As; Katie Collins 6A* and 5As and Rosie Ashman 6A* and 5As.

The assistant headteacher Mrs Burman said: "This is the first full cohort to follow the Welsh Baccalaureate qualification at the school and thanks must be given for the support and guidance of all the staff, especially the learning coaches."

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Saron Chapel

FUNDS are urgently needed for the repair of steps leading to the Treoes Chapel's vestry, which have deteriorated further over the past months.

Friends of the chapel had no choice but to instigate emergency work, for health and safety reasons.

Three quotes have been obtained, and instructions issued for the most competitive contractor to start work as soon as possible.

The cost of the restoration work to the steps, including the refurbishment of the original metal gate and undertaking all the work in accordance with the character of the chapel, will amount to £3,000.

Friends of Saron have already collected £2,000, which has taken many hours of fundraising.

They will continue their efforts until the work is finished, with more fundraising events planned.

It would be a sad day if Saron, dating back to 1831, ended as a place of worship. Are there residents in and around the village of Treoes who are in the building and restoration business who could perhaps help? Please call Gill Ham on 01656 663693.

This year's harvest festival service at Saron Chapel will take place on Sunday, September 9 at 3pm, conducted by Rev Robin Samuel. Everyone will be welcome.

This year's harvest festival service at St Mary Hill Church will take place on Sunday, September 16 at 6.30pm; followed by the harvest supper in the Llangan and St Mary Hill community hall.

Please call 01656 860881 if you wish to attend.

Legend is to coach in town

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Peter Griffiths, the head of coaching at PG 10, which has helped to arrange Campese's visit to the Vale said: "In Olympic year, I am thrilled a world rugby legend is giving the time to inspire and help develop Welsh sport and young people.

"Picking up tips from David Campese is a once in a lifetime opportunity, and I am delighted PG10 and the Events Room are able to provide this opportunity to young people."

The former Australian winger is particularly popular in Wales.

He was part of the Aussie team that beat England at Twickenham to lift the Webb Ellis Trophy in 1991, but he had already endeared himself to Welsh rugby fans when he threw a wayward pass during the Lions' 1989 tour which Ieuan Evans seized on to secure a series victory.

Campese – often known by the affectionate nickname 'Campo' – is a true legend of the game, having scored 64 tries in 101 appearance for the men in green and gold.

He was also named 'Player of the Tournament' at the 1991 World Cup.

He is also known as a man of strong opinions and people can listen to his views on the state of the game and Welsh rugby during 'An Evening with David Campese' at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge on Tuesday, October 2.

For people or local clubs interested in tickets for the evening, call The Events Room 0845 108 5690.

'Au revoir' Clemont and Armondine – THANK YOU FOR CHARMING THE VALE!

by TIM CHAPMAN

A young French couple, who came to the Vale this summer to learn about Welsh culture and practice their English, will return home on September 1, having charmed the natives.

Clemont Belin, aged 21, from Poitiers, and his partner Armondine Pergeaux, also 21, from La Rochelle, arrived on July 1 and have packed in quite a lot during their two-month stay, including working at the National Eisteddfod!

Tony and Eileen Bennett – Eileen, the former chair of Llantwit Major Twinning Association, and Tony the current chair – have hosted Clemont and Armondine and can't speak highly enough of them.

ABOVE: Tony and Eileen with Clemont and Armondine by the Thames in London.

Eileen said: "They are a wonderful couple and have been so much fun.

"During their time here, they have visited London, Windsor – where they tasted the Olympic atmosphere – St Fagans, Cardiff, Brecon and many local towns.

"They even walked from Llantwit Major to Porthcawl along the coast, and hitch hiked back, finding people very friendly and helpful on the way.

"Tony also took Clemont to watch Arsenal, which he really enjoyed."

But although the couple managed to fit in quite a lot of sightseeing, they also worked very hard, as Tony explained.

"During their time in the Vale, they were employed by Mr and Mrs Christopher at the West House Hotel in Llantwit Major – Clemont as a handyman, and Armondine doing the housekeeping.

"They worked on a crepes stall for Creperie de Sophie, owned by their compatriots, Loic and Sophie Moinon, who live locally. That was at the National Eisteddfod – they helped Loic prepare and cook the mixtures.

"They came to the Vale to improve their English language skills and to find out more about Welsh culture. During their time at the Eisteddfod, they learned a little Welsh, too."

Clemont and Armondine's visit was initiated through their links to Le Pouliguen, which is Llantwit's 'twin' town.

Eileen explained: "We met up with them in May in France when they explained what they wanted to do.

"Since they arrived, we have built up a great rapport with them – they are absolutely brilliant, lovely people.

"When I get home there's even a cup of tea waiting for me!"

Clemont and Armondine head home for France this Saturday, having charmed the Vale, and boosted the Entente Cordiale no end!

Help for a young man from his local charity

NEW technology – and a Wick-based charity – have combined to help a disabled young man overcome a huge problem.

The Ed Evans Foundation, a local charity, has come forward to help Seth Jorgensen communicate with the outside world. by donating a specially programmed I-Pad

His mother, Sol Jorgensen, told The GEM why the device would make such a difference.

She said: "My adult son cannot communicate verbally. He is bi-laterally deaf and we communicate a lot in Makaton, a sign language for those who also have a learning disablity.

"The sad thing is that most people in our community, and also those who help my son professionally, do not speak this specialist sign language.

"He has been left isolated since leaving his local school of Heronsbridge, where staff and students used the same sign language."

She continued: "This is not a unique experience. Lots of young adults leave school to live in a community which underestimates them because of their lack of verbal language.

ABOVE: Seth Jorgensen with Sue Evans of the Ed Evans Foundation.

"Seth has been through a trial with the electronic assistive technology service communication aid centre at Rookwood Hospital for the last six months.

"This trial has shown that he has the ability to communicate through the technology of the I-Pad, both physically and mentally. This is a great achievement, given his genetic condition."

Annette Penn, the lead speech and language therapist in augmentative and alternative communication at Rookwood, said: "It is clear, even from this short trial that Seth would benefit greatly from consistent access to a voice output aid of his own."

To enable this to happen, the Wick-based Ed Evans Foundation has stepped in to buy the I-Pad.

Sol said: "This is wonderful news. We cannot thank them enough.

"It will make such a difference to our daily life, and Seth's ability to communicate with others in his own way. It gives an independence otherwise denied to him."

Ed Evans was a young man from Wick who was diagnosed with a brain tumour in 2006. He started the foundation and worked to raise funds for Cancer Research Wales and brain tumour research.

Sadly, Ed died in October 2007, but since then his family and friends have continued his work. They also donate to local good causes.

On behalf of the foundation, Sue Evans said: "We are very pleased to support Seth, as it was always Ed's wish that his charity would help people in his local community."

Sol Jorgensen added: "The speech therapists and support staff at Rookwood Hospital do wonderful work, and this promises to make a big difference to Seth's life."

COMMUNITY NEWS
ST BRIDES MAJOR

Your local correspondent is Patricia Bevan-Morgan (01656) 880418

IT has been brought to my notice that flower vases have gone missing from graves in St Bridget's churchyard and the police have been informed. Please keep a look-out!

CONCERN has been shown over the cutting back of the bracken and thistles on the common beyond the Schilly. This has been carried out as part of commons management, as is done very year to enable more grazing for the many sheep.

THE local library service at the Church Hall, St Brides Major, is proving very successful. It is held on Wednesday from 3.30pm to 7pm; and on Saturday from 10am to 12 noon, together with tea/coffee and chat.

Green waste bags are also available from the library.

THE local produce market meets at the Church Hall on the second Saturday of the month from 10am to 12 noon.

YET again there is a problem with dog fouling: this time, the area affected is within St Bridget's churchyard, which makes the grass cutting most unpleasant.

If it continues, the Community Council who manage and own the churchyard, will have to consider restricting dogs to the area. Dog fouling is an offence and you could be prosecuted and fined up to £75. Dogs make wonderful pets and are welcomed in most areas, but dog mess is not, so please do not leave it. Bag it and bin it or take it home.

HARVEST Evensong in All Saints Church, Southerndown, at 6pm on Sunday, September 30 and in Ewenny Priory Church at 7pm on Thursday, October 4. Harvest Thanksgiving in St Bridget's Church, St Brides Major, at 11am on Sunday, October 7, followed by parish lunch in the Church Hall.

WICK Horticultural Show will be on September 1. The 44th annual open vegetable and flower show will be held in the Village Hall, with staging from 9am to 11.45am and the grand opening at 2pm. Admission 50p, including tea and biscuits; children free. Raffle and sales stall.

HERITAGE Coast Open Day on Sunday, September 16 from 2.30pm. The centre at Dunraven Bay, Southerndown, will be open as usual with rangers on hand.

Arrangements are being made for a visit to Slade Farm, making use of the new covered trailer which will leave from near the centre and is accessible to all.

The trip will take approximately an hour and refreshments will be available on return.

Popular fair caught out by wet summer

THE organisers of the St Mary Hill Fair say that it was a "huge disappointment" that it became another victim of the wet summer.

The decision was taken last Thursday (August 23) when a representative of the traders inspected the common near Pencoed, and said that it was too wet.

It had been scheduled to go ahead on Bank Holiday Monday (August 27).

Lyn Wood, the fair administrator for the Coity Wallia Board of Conservators: "Told The GEM: "Even if the forecast had been for good weather, it would still have had to be called off.

"As it was, more rain was on the way. It was a shame, because last year's event raised £3,000 for Macmillan nurses, and we hoped to make a similar amount for charity this year.

"Ironically, this year I had great support from local businesses who put up posters, and then I had to go round and write 'cancelled' on them all.

"I was quite surprised by the number of people who said that they had been planning to go, and who were really disappointed!

Did you know you can read your GEM online?
cowbridge-today.co.uk/
llantwit-major-today.co.uk

May 'the Force' be with CF Trust and Macmillan charities

FORCE Strength and Conditioning, based at the Vale Business Park in Llandow, is hosting a 'Warfare Strongman' charity day this Sunday, September 2.

Those taking part in the event or spectating will be raising funds for the CF Trust and Macmillan Cancer Support.

Chris Jones, a spokeman for the club, explained; "There are both male and female competitions in traditional strongman events such as tyre flip, farmer's walks and log press, as well as some 'Force style' events.

"We have already had a great response in terms of entries, and have competitors training hard.

"If you are not taking part, you can come and show your support on the day to cheer on friends and family.

"The ethos of the day is very much to have fun, with competition thrown in, to raise money for two great charities, Cystic Fibrosis and Macmillan, both of which are close to the hearts of our members and local community.

"The charities were chosen by our members and we hope to be able to put on a great day for everyone.

"There will be more than just the competition, with a barbecue and also a bouncy castle and face painting for the kids."

One local family encouraging people to support the charity day is the Thomas family from Llantwit.

Eighteen-month-old Nancy, who has cystic fibrosis, has inspired her father Lyn and mum Lucy, and other members of the Thomas family to raise funds for the CF Trust.

Lucy said: "This will be a great event and it's wonderful that Force Strength and Conditioning will be giving the proceeds to the CF Trust and Macmillan Cancer Support."

For more information, please go to see www.force-strength.com.

Older People's Commission's new roadshow

THE Older People's Commission for Wales recently began its 'Commission Roadshow', aiming to engage with older people in a diverse range of groups in communities across Wales.

As part of the roadshow, the commission will be holding information days around Wales. The first was held at the Murchfield Community Centre in Dinas Powys on August 13.

Kelly Davies, communications and engagement manager at the commission, said: "We received a warm welcome from the people we met in Dinas Powys and it was great to meet representatives from Dinas Powys Voluntary Concern, who provide valuable support to older people in the community.

"We heard about a new befriending scheme launched in association with The Big Lottery and the Vale Centre for Voluntary Services.

"The scheme aims to help reduce feelings of loss and isolation through developing a social network in the community.

"Schemes like this provide an invaluable service and a great deal of support for older people, reassuring them that they are not alone and helping them maintain their independence and stay active."

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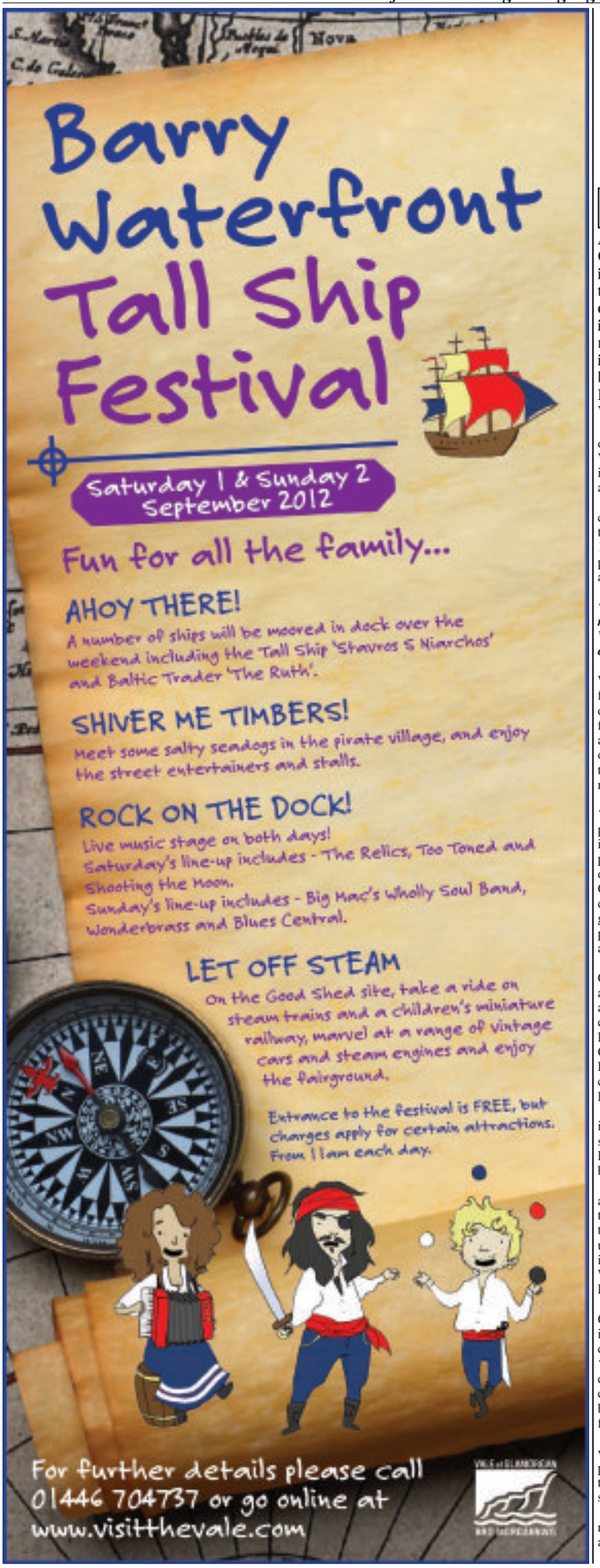

Are Bridgend's motorists callous?

– *or more honest?*

by PHILIP IRWIN

A WELSH Government survey into attitudes towards parking in disabled car parking spaces has revealed a surprising difference between people in Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan.

In the survey, only one person in 10 in the Vale admitted to parking in a 'blue badge' disabled space.

However, in Bridgend county borough, four times as many – four in 10 – said that they had parked their car in a disabled spot.

It begs the question: ***'Are Bridgend people more callous than in the Vale, or just more honest?'***

The average around Wales was the one in 10 figure, and the worst offenders in Wales were found to be between 45 and 55; among them, one in six confessed that they invaded these reserved spaces "often".

These abuses of the 'Blue Badge' accessible parking system emerged in a survey of 1,009 people conducted on behalf of the Welsh Government, as part of a drive to encourage greater respect for the parking rights of disabled vehicle users.

With the Paralympic Games only a week away, the initiative was also supported by legendary Paralympic athlete, Baroness Tanni Grey Thomson, and Porthcawl's Paralympic cyclist, Simon Richardson.

It follows the recent introduction of new-style blue badges for legitimate users of blue badge spaces.

The badge contains additional security features to help the authorities identify improper use and prevent forgeries and is free across Wales but not in England and Scotland.

The Welsh Government has stated its intention to crack down on the so called 'space invaders' who either park in a designated space without a blue badge or use a badge fraudulently.

The results of the survey also revealed strong public support for tougher policing of the system.

Nearly 70 per cent of respondents in the Vale and in Bridgend said it was never acceptable to park in an accessible space without a permit.

In the Vale, only 12 per cent argued that it is acceptable if someone is in a hurry or only wants to stay a few minutes.

Surprisingly, in Bridgend county borough, only three per cent agreed with this.

More than a third of those questioned in the Vale said illegal users of these spaces should be clamped or towed away, while in Bridgend, only 11 per cent felt that way.

Although the new-style badges are issued by local councils, they are linked to a new UK database of eligible users. This makes it much easier for police and parking wardens anywhere in the country to verify whether or not a badge is being used legitimately.

Baroness Grey-Thomson backed the tightening-up of the system and said she was keenly aware of the problems caused by abusers, even though they constitute only a minority of the motoring public.

She said: "I think this issue has got worse and gradually the problem has become more widespread over the years. People do cheat the system."

The multiple Paralympic medal winner, who is a wheelchair user, said she has personally experienced the problem.

She explained: "I need the space to open my car door wide enough to get my wheelchair out and yet people use the bays when they shouldn't."

Fellow Paralympic medal winner and Beijing record breaker Simon Richardson from Porthcawl says that the problem is everywhere and it's rising.

He said: "Generally, the issue is the same everywhere you go. If there is a space, people use it no matter what it's for.

"People are just jumping out of their car, running out into the supermarket and not thinking before they use the spaces. There is a definite need for tightening of the rules."

The Minister for Local Government and Communities, Carl Sargeant, said: "The new and more secure Blue Badge is designed to prevent misuse of these permits and reduce illegal parking in these spaces generally.

"The survey shows there is strong public support for this. While only a small minority break the rules, they can make life a misery for many disabled vehicle users. We need to stamp out this practice."

In Wales, there are around 230,000 Blue Badges in use and 2.5 million across the UK. An official UK Government report has pointed to widespread abuse of the system, either through forgery of badges or use of real badges by those not entitled to use them.

The report estimated that fraudulent or improper use of these badges also costs the UK a total of £46million a year in parking fee evasion.

Introduction of the new-style blue badges began in April this year and they will be issued to all eligible users as their existing permits fall due for renewal over the next three years.

What do GEM readers think? Email ***gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk***

ABOVE: Paralympic cyclist Simon Richardson is campaigning to keep disabled parking spaces clear for blue badge holders.

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VALE MP's VIEWPOINT

'End the appalling wait for urgent cancer treatment'

Vale MP Alun Cairns reports to GEM readers

FIGURES published last week, show that waiting time targets for urgent cases of suspected cancer have been missed again in Cardiff and the Vale and across Wales.

Sadly, delays in treatment are issues that all too regularly crop up in my constituency surgeries.

These new figures highlight that only 89 per cent of patients started treatment within the target timeframe of 62 days in the three months to June 2012.

It is worrying that the 95 per cent target has not been met once since Carwyn Jones became First Minister in 2009.

I'm only too aware that when someone is told that they have cancer, the waiting to begin treatment is a frightening and distressing time for patients and their families.

Starting treatment promptly is critical to the patient's prospects for a successful outcome.

Cancer patients are less likely to get the latest drugs, here in Wales which are routinely available in England, in the absence of a cancer drug's fund.

The BBC reported last year that 22 new drugs prescribed regularly in England are not routinely available in Wales, and the Rarer Cancer Foundation reported that English patients are five times more likely to get cancer drugs than their counterparts in Wales.

Welsh Ministers need to speed up the implementation of the All-Wales Cancer Action Plan and work with Local Health Boards to allow patients to begin treatment more quickly.

The Health Minister also needs to listen to the concerns of cancer patients and drop her opposition to a cancer treatments fund, which would end the postcode lottery in access to vital life-extending cancer drugs.

This appalling situation also needs to be taken in the context of a commitment by the UK government to grow its health spend in real terms over this parliamentary period, while the Labour administration in Cardiff Bay plans to cut health spend by 8.4 per cent in real terms by 2015.

The reduced spending level also has to fund free prescriptions for everyone – rather than the usual exclusions for pensioners, children, benefit claimants and to finance free hospital parking.

Earlier this month, I met with Cowbridge-based Prostate Cymru founder Ray Murray, and pledged my support for their campaign to help create Wales' first robotic urological surgery facility.

I was aghast to hear that if you are a prostate patient in England and want robotic surgery – then you're likely to get it free on the NHS – but for men in Wales, it's not available on the Welsh NHS! Currently if patients in Wales want this treatment, they have pay privately and go to England.

In April, I backed calls for national standards of care, calling on anyone with direct or indirect experience of the disease to feed back on The Prostate Cancer Charity's draft standards.

Prostate Cymru has launched its Operation Robot campaign to raise £1.7m to fund the establishment of Wales's first specialist Robotic Urological Surgery facility. It would be at the University Hospital of Wales in Cardiff and be available to patients across Wales.

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men in the UK, which is why I believe it's essential we know exactly what people affected by the disease require canexpect from our health service.

Men everywhere deserve quality prostate cancer care, and I will do all I can to ensure this is possible for us in Wales. It's important that the Welsh Government work closely with their colleagues in England to develop, implement and invest in prostate care in Wales, so that patients here can get the best care and support.

You can find out more at www.operationrobot.com

MRS MOTIVATOR POINTS THE WAY FORWARD FOR THE VALE

AT a Business Breakfast meeting at the Vale of Glamorgan Show in the grounds of Fonmon Castle last Wednesday, Vale Council leader, Neil Moore and cabinet member for regeneration, innovation, planning and transportation, Coun Lis Burnett, asked guests for their views on the future of the area's economic development.

The Vale Council has historically hosted an event at the Vale Show to maintain ongoing relationships within this key sector.

In the 'Vital to the Vale' event, representatives from a wide range of businesses, including the Vale Resort, Marco's Café, Task Force Skirmish Paintball and Seabreeze Homes took part in the discussion, with guest speaker Philippa Davies, a business psychologist and author, also known as 'Mrs Motivator'.

Jane Hutt AM, Vaughan Gething AM, Sir Brooke Boothby of Fonmon Castle and Vale of Glamorgan Mayor, Coun Eric Hacker, also joined in the discussion.

Suggestions included better promotion of venues, strengthening and integrating communities, focus on the Vale's diversity and building a Vale 'brand'.

Following the discussion, Ms Davies gave an insight into modern business and the internet, advising businesses on how to make the web work for them.

She told the audience: "The more you can find out about a customer's 'journey' the better, because it tells you how you fit into the context of their life. It's not so much about discussing products and services with customers, more about them helping you to design your shop."

Coun Neil Moore told guests: "We have tried to do things differently this year and to facilitate a discussion so we can hear your views. We have two questions: what is really good about the Vale that we should promote? – and where ae the gaps either in provision or in the links that would make existing facilities more effective?"

PACT meetings

ST ATHAN PACT, September 2, at The Gathering Place, 2pm.

PLYMOUTH PACT, September 5 at Lower Penarth Community Centre, Brockhill Way, 7pm.

WENVOE coffee and chat, September 11 at the Wenvoe Arms, 11am.

LLANTWIT MAJOR PACT, September 11 at Llantwit Leisure Centre, 7pm.

CADOC PACT, September 12 at Palmerston Community Community Learning Centre at 6pm.

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Thomas gets to meet 'Macca' (once again) on graduation day

RIGHT: Llantwit's Thomas Sutch with Sir Paul McCartney, after graduating from the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts.

LLANTWIT boy Thomas Sutch met a famous face at his graduation from the Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts (LIPA) as Sir Paul McCartney presented his certificate for a Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Acting (Performing Arts).

A former St Illtyd Primary School and Llantwit Major Comprehensive pupil, Thomas has been acting since a young age, performing in both school and south Wales drama school productions.

Proud dad Neil told The GEM: "Thomas' mother Adele has been the driveing force from a young age, pushing him to learn the piano and guitar; and the headmaster at St Illtyd, Mr Smith, and Dr Brown and (former drama teacher) Kay Smith at Llantwit Comprehensive School have helped coach him along the way."

Thomas was accepted at LIPA, which Neil said was "very difficult to get into", for a four-year course that has helped him hone his acting talents, with help from Sir Paul himself.

His final year included lead roles in the likes of *Titanic*, *Extremist* and *Clockwork Orange*.

Neil continued: "He has met Sir Paul McCartney annually, as he is the patron of LIPA. It's quite a big thing to meet him.

"He enjoyed his graduation, but leaving is a big wrench for him because he has made amazing friends there and it's the end of a journey."

Thomas is now working in London and is a member of the prestigious Spotlight agency which helps him find work.

He wants to go into musical theatre and the West End, and already has a four-month contract with a musical theatre production travelling around London communities, performing for various groups.

As well as his acting talents, Tom is also an accomplished singer and gigs both locally and around the country in pubs, at weddings and at festivals to try and fund his living costs.

Neil concluded: "We couldn't dream of anything better for him, as LIPA is one of the top drama schools in the country and for him to go there is massive.

"Whatever he wants to do, we will support him. We are all very proud of Tom and want to thank friends, local schools and family for their continued interest and support."

LEIGH GRUFFYDD SANDERS

Gathering place

WEEKLY coffee mornings will re-start from 10am–12noon at The Gathering Place, St Athan, on Tuesday, September 4, with freshly brewed ground coffee for only £1.

Tea, toast, cakes and biscuits are also on offer. The Gathering Place is a great venue to meet up with friends for a chat and to make new ones. Toys are available for the children.

A LOCAL COUNCILLOR HITS OUT...

Severn Barrage would be 'disaster'

A LOCAL councillor has warned of an impending "disaster" for the community of Sully – should the proposed Severn Barrage project to link Lavernock Point and Somerset ever be constructed.

The Prime Minister, David Cameron, has reportedly instructed officials to look into plans to build a £30 billion-plus barrage across the River Severn.

It is claimed the project could bring 20,000 jobs to the Vale, and supporters, led by Neath's Labour MP Peter Hain, claim the scheme, which reports say will be backed by funding from Kuwait and Qatar, could provide five per cent of the UK's electricity.

Hafren Power is the company said to be behind the revived proposals.

However, there is opposition from local councillors, as well as wildlife groups, who claim it would damage the habitats of sea birds who use the estuary.

Sully councillor Kevin Mahoney was vehemently against the proposals. He told The GEM: "It is an absolute disaster. We would have to suffer 16-17 years of the heaviest construction traffic, and then be left with a highway splitting the community in half.

"Mr Hain knows that he can't guarantee one job for the area due to the number of workers tendered in the EU."

The Vale Council's operational manager of development control, Marcus Goldsworthy, told The GEM: "The council has not yet been consulted on any proposals relating to a proposed Severn Barrage, but would hope to be involved in any future discussions, should the project progress.

"A development of this magnitude would have to pass significant planning and other regulatory hurdles and any planning application for the project would be considered and determined by the National Infrastructure Planning Office of the Planning Inspectorate.

"As part of this process, the Vale Council would expect to play a significant role."

Coun Lis Burnett, who represents a Penarth ward and is the cabinet member for regeneration, innovation, planning and transportation, added: "The council would obviously want to explore any project or initiative that offered the levels of renewable energy or jobs suggested by the various media reports."

Peter Jones, conservation policy officer for the RSPB, told The GEM: "We can't really comment until we see the plans, but we're sceptical that it meets the environment's needs. We hope the plans are made available sooner rather than later, as we need to highlight our concerns about the local habitat.

"We want to see Severn tidal power harnessed as a sustainable energy alternative to fossil fuels, but it has to be done in a way that doesn't harm the environment or wildlife."

Vale AM Jane Hutt said that she recognised the potential benefits of the proposals, but also called for feasibility studies to be carried out to gauge the environmental effects.

She told The GEM: "All reasonable options need to be considered in meeting Wales' and the UK's growing power needs – increased energy efficiency, renewables, all have a role to play.

"The huge tidal range in the Severn estuary could be a source of carbon-free electricity over a very long term, providing significant benefits locally in jobs, practical skills and supply chain.

"I also recognise that the estuary is important for its special environmental features, and the potential impact on these must be considered in the assessment of different technologies for harnessing the energy of the tidal range."

Peter Hain said: "I will be insisting that local jobs, both skilled and construction, will be prioritised.

"It will be the biggest investment in Wales' history and the Vale should be proud that something so iconic, that helps us meet our green targets and that will pull in much-needed investment, will be here.

"I understand people's fears, but full discussion with local people and environmental groups will be held going forward.

"This is a win-win!"

LEIGH GRUFFYDD SANDERS

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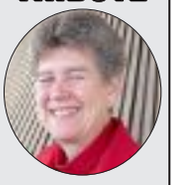
Remembering brave Lucy, a champion of the oppressed

THE tragic death of Lucy Dickenson, the inspirational young founder and leader of the SAFE Foundation, is a terrible shock and huge loss to all those she empowered and supported in Africa, India and across the world, as well as here in Wales.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE



by Vale AM
JANE HUTT
(Minister for Finance and Leader of the House)

Lucy was an extraordinary person – of vision, of commitment and of courage who I was privileged to know and work with.

She was clear that where there was injustice, poverty and discrimination in the world – she was ready to step in and work to find solutions with the people and communities she was supporting.

She was their champion and she worked with people, on their terms, with so many small local organisations and groups she helped to inspire and organise.

Lucy rose above all the weaknesses of bureaucracy and steered all the money she raised for the projects and communities she supported.

She lived simply so that others may live and benefit from the SAFE Foundation and was always stretching her intellect, her imagination and her skills to make a difference.

She believed in the Millennium Development goals, she didn't just subscribe to them. She wanted to make them happen not just support them in principle as found in our shared work for our local 'Vale for Africa' group.

She was also a brilliant speaker, as so many of us found at her talks to the Barry Soroptimists and also at the Dorothy Rees Memorial Lunch earlier this year.

She put our small world into perspective as she spoke with such openness and honesty, not about herself, but about the wider world where poverty and hunger is a reality and she showed what we can do to play our part to support the work of the SAFE Foundation.

Professor Stephen Tomlinson CBE, Chairman of Vale for Africa and the Wales for Africa Health Links Network said of Lucy: *"Lucy and the SAFE Foundation worked together with Vale for Africa as partners. Lucy was a Trustee of Vale for Africa and I have known her from the beginning of our partnership four years ago.*

"She was a joy; she brightened up any room she entered. She was truly inspirational and cared deeply for the poor, the sick and the disadvantaged, especially children in Africa and Asia."

She was a true leader of young people and helped changed the lives of young people from Wales, as well as across the world. In her short life, she achieved so much more than we see in policies and programmes which have good intention, but can take decades to deliver.

This was recognised in the Gold Star Award Ceremony recently in Wales.

It was an honour and privilege to know Lucy Dickenson and our thoughts are now with her family and friends, with whom we share the intense grief of the loss of such a fine young woman of Wales.

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Hectic time for Penarth lifeboat

VOLUNTEERS at Penarth RNLI had a busy day earlier this month, launching twice to deal with serious incidents.

A Penarth RNLI spokeswoman said: "The first call came at 1.30 pm on Thursday, August 16, to reports of a motorboat stuck in shallow water just outside Cardiff Docks.

"Lifeboat helm Andy Vye-Parminter and his crew of Aran Pitter and Owain Davies launched the smaller of Penarth's two boats – the D class Inshore Lifeboat (ILB) – and made their way quickly to the motorboat.

"They found five people on board the small motorboat, with only one lifejacket between them. One of the lifeboat crew waded out from the lifeboat to the stranded motorboat, and passed the occupants four further lifejackets.

"The lifeboat crew attached a tow rope to the motorboat and pulled it clear and into deeper waters so it could refloat."

The second call came just hours later at 6.50pm. Two people were reported to be cut off by the tide in the St Mary's Well Bay area.

The smaller ILB launched, this time helmed by Jason Dunlop and crewed by Mark Bow and James Sidford. Within minutes of this launch, the larger boat – the Atlantic 85 – also received a request to mobilise.

Helm Karl Lawrence and his crew of Graeme Jones, Owain Davies and Alex Kalebic made their way as quickly as possible towards St Mary's Well Bay.

The spokeswoman continued: "The lifeboat crews spotted two men, who had been filming along the coast, stranded on a small area of dry beach remaining at the foot of the cliff face.

"Sea conditions were rough, the weather was cold and blustery and there was an onshore swell which made it difficult to get the lifeboats on to the beach to pick up the stranded walkers.

"However the crew of the ILB managed to get the small lifeboat onto the beach, where the two men were helped into the boat and were transferred into the larger, more comfortable Atantic 85, which was waiting just offshore in deeper waters.

"The lifeboat crew had to act quickly, as one of the men seemed to be suffering from the effects of the cold, and the rescue helicopter that the crew had requested reported that it could not reach them for over an hour.

"Once on board the Atlantic 85, the two were checked over by Graeme Jones, one of the lifeboat crew who is also a paramedic. The Atlantic 85 took the two men to Barry Dock, as the seas were too rough to be able to land anywhere closer. Here, they were met by the Coastguard and the ambulance."

Both boats returned to the station just after 9pm. This second call was a timely chance for crew member Alex Kalebic to put to the test the skills he had learned over the past years as a probationary crew member.

Just the previous day, Alex had been through a rigorous assessment by the RNLI's divisional assessor trainer and had successfully passed from probation to full crew member.

Praising Alex for passing his assessment, Phil Dutfield, lifeboat operations manager for Penarth, said: "As an organisation we ask a great deal from our volunteers. Alex should be very proud of his achievements."

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Welsh school bucks the national trend!

THE boys led the way this year at Ysgol Gyfun Bro Morgannwg, as the Welsh medium, comprehensive bucked the national trend – seven out of every 11 of the school's highest achievers (attaining A* and A grades) in 13 subjects were boys.

Between them, Lewis Harrison, Elis Jackson, Joseph Lee, Michael Scannell, Ronan Scott and Harri William amassed an amazing total of 40 A* grades and 26 A grades in the GCSE results published last Thursday.

Many of their peers across the Vale who have attended the Welsh medium comprehensive in Barry, are also celebrating fantastic results.

*Meirin Evans (10A*s and 2As will be returning to sixth form).*

None more so than Meirin Evans from Penarth, who was the outstanding pupil this year with an incredible 10 A* grades, 2 A grades and a Distinction in Applied IT.

His GCSE success follows a week after he attained full marks in his French AS exam, resulting in an A grade in the language.

Not to be outdone by her brother, year-9 pupil Sian Azilis Evans achieved an A* in GCSE French, sitting the exam two years early.

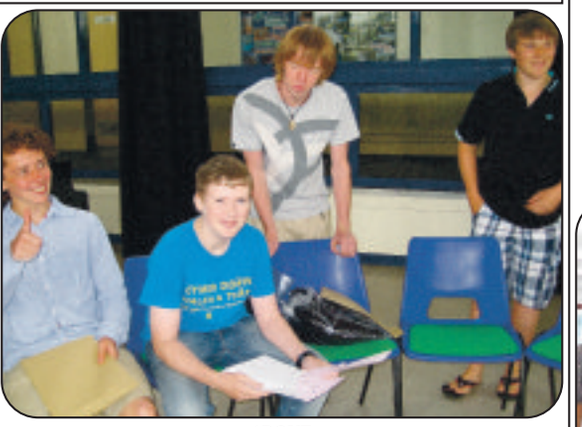
Leading the way for year-11 girls this year were Hawys Davies, Louise Helm, Cerren Richards and Bethan Yapp, who all scored an impressive array of A* and A grades in their 13 subjects.

Disappointed faces were most definitely in the minority as the school celebrated yet another set of excellent examination results in the academic and vocational subjects, as well as all pupils entered for the Welsh Bacc qualification for the first time in Key Stage Four, achieving their goal.

Pupils across the ability range achieved their potential, and we are delighted that 87 per cent of the pupils achieved A* to C grades in five or more subjects.

Congratulations to pupils and staff, and we look forward to welcoming many of the successful pupils back to the sixth form, where they can continue with their studies and contribute as young leaders to the school's ethos.

Meinir Thomas



ABOVE:
Meirin Evans, Thomas Firth (10A and 2B/returning to sixth form), Gareth Pilcher (12 GCSE's A*-C/returning to sixth form), Lewis Harrison.

LEFT to RIGHT – Eleri Lloyd (12 GCSEs/returning to sixth form), Owain Lord (12 GCSEs A*-C/returning to sixth form), Lewis Harrison (5A* and 7A/returning to sixth form).

TY HAFAN'S EBAY APPEAL

DUE to the success of selling items on eBay, Ty Hafan is looking for volunteers to help raise much-needed funds for the hospice at Sully.

"We are aware that there are lots of people who really enjoy buying and selling on eBay," said Kat Edgar, warehouse manager. "Ty Hafan can give them the opportunity to apply their skills for a really deserving cause.

"We are looking for people to help us value, prepare and send valuable and collectable items, as well as take telephone calls from prospective bidders. All we ask is that they can attend our Barry warehouse once a week for a few hours so that the eBay activity can be maintained."

Contact Ms Edger on 01446 721544 for further information.

READY FOR SANTA...

Morgan (six) earns place on sleigh parade

SIX-year-old Morgan Jones, from Bryncethin, has won the NFU Mutual Bridgend & The Vale prize draw for a place on Santa's sleigh at the Cowbridge Reindeer Parade.

The draw was made in the NFU stand at the Vale Show, as they are the main sponsors of the Cowbridge Reindeer Parade, held this year on Sunday November 25.

Morgan, whose family farm is at Brocastle, Bridgend, and who goes to Pencoed Primary School, couldn't wait to tell all his friends and family, especially his best friend, Iwan.

The picture (above) shows Morgan being presented with his 'reindeer' at the NFU office, by David Harris, group secretary of the Kelly & Harris Agency.

Pam Harris

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is giving you the chance to **WIN** a fantastic L'Oreal gift set worth over £50!

To celebrate the fantastic make-over that has taken place at our Llantwit Major branch, we're giving 10 lucky readers the chance to WIN a L'Oreal gift set containing six fabulous must-have items for men and women.

The new-look branch based on Boverton Road has been refurbished to give a more customer-friendly interior design which means the pharmacy is brighter and feels more spacious. Now providing customers with a pleasant environment to shop in and get health advice and prescriptions.

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Vale Show organisers are praised by the local AM

Jane Hutt AM with the Royal British Legion

Jane Hutt AM meets NFU representatives.

THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, has hailed last week's Vale Show as a 'great success' and congratulated the organisers and volunteers who made it such a great event.

She commented: "With the sun shining on Fonmon, we knew the Vale Show would be a great success, but it was the preparation and organisation of all the events, displays, exhibitions and stalls that made it such a tremendous day which was enjoyed by all those who attended.

"The Vale Show is an important event in the calendar and it is better every year. Congratulations to all those who played their part in 2012!"

Mayor of Penarth takes in Vale Show

THE Mayor of Penarth, Coun Philip Rapier, was among those who spent the day at the Vale Show in Fonmon Castle, where he mingledwith the public and time indulging in some fowl play at the poultry exhibits, as the photograph (above) shows!

Bridge winners

Jane Brook and Huw Thomas, winners of the recent East Wales Bridge Association claret jug.

LATEST results from Barrivale: 1st. Mike Close and Mick Green 63.33 per cent; 2nd. Eileen Hughes and Carol James 55 per cent; 3rd. Ann Macdougall and Sean Macdougall 53.75 per cent. Ann and Sean won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. If you would like to join, telephone 01446 733425 or 01446 418380 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry on Tuesdays at 7pm.

Friends and Neighbours are reminded of heydays

AS part of Friends and Neighbours' active programme, more than 30 members of the group attended the matinee performance of Fame JR at Barry Memorial Hall by Superstars in the Making.

The group had a very entertaining afternoon.

They clapped along to every popular Fame song, and it reminded them of their heydays.

They loved the colourful costumes and the excellent set design, especially the yellow taxi that took its place for the grand finale.

Many of the members remarked it was of West End standard, and for many of the members it was their first experience of a live musical.

Gay Fifield

Cowbridge welcomes top local and global talent for third annual music festival

SEPTEMBER 14 sees the opening of the 2012 Cowbridge Music Festival, with audiences set to fill Holy Cross Church for world class performances by local and international artists.

The festival begins with top string players from across Europe. Members of the Lausanne Chamber Orchestra and Chamber Orchestra of Europe present two hallmark works: the turbulently passionate '*Souvenir de Florence*' by Tchaikovsky, and the richly lyrical '*String Sextet in B flat*' by Brahms.

On Saturday 15, musicians from Bulgaria, Germany and Switzerland, '*Tri i Dve*', will raise the roof of the town hall with a free concert in aid of Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research (donations invited).

The group's unique sound combines Western classical elegance with the rich colours and exuberant rhythms of Hungarian and Balkan folk music.

Three outstanding young musicians – Cowbridge violinist Charlie MacClure, Atlantic College pianist Emma Woo, and harpist Benjamin Creighton Griffiths, open the festival's second weekend, presenting a wide variety of solo pieces in this showcase for local talent.

For lovers of early music, the celebrated Welsh soprano Elin Manahan Thomas and lutanist David Miller perform Elizabethan songs on Saturday 22.

Festival director Mary Elliot said: "In the past we've had quite a few requests from audiences for Baroque music, so we're delighted to be able to respond with a tailored programme."

Violinist Felix Froschhammer. *Photo by Tashko Tasheff.*

Friday 28 is movie night, as CMF and Big Screen Cinema collaborate once again to present comic masterpieces by Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin, with Swiss pianist Lucas Buclin returning to provide his captivating improvised accompaniment.

Last year's silent movie evening welcomed a sold-out crowd, with film lovers aged three to 83 sharing laughter and, of course, ice-cream.

Eminent Welsh pianist Llyr Williams brings the programme to a close on Saturday 29, with a recital of some of the greatest works for piano by Schubert, Brahms and Chopin.

Founded in 2010 with a grant from Creative Rural Communities, the festival was awarded charitable status in 2011.

This year, it has received funding from the Arts Council of Wales, D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust and the Simon Gibson Charitable Trust, in addition to a second year of sponsorship from Cardiff Design.

Admission to all six concerts is free for children and students. The organisers are also proud to offer the lowest ticket prices of any international-standard festival.

Continuing a commitment to community outreach, the festival will include free performances in local schools and care homes. Events already confirmed are a strings concert for students of Cowbridge Comprehensive School and a miniature silent movie at Barry Island Primary School.

This year, CMF is also excited to work with artists from the Cardiff School of Art & Design (UWIC), who will create pieces of art inspired by the festival's music programme. Their work will be displayed at Cowbridge Library throughout September.

Tickets, including 'saver' festival passes, are on sale now from Xantippe on Cowbridge High Street, through PayPal on the website (see below), and from Ticket Source on 08448 700887.

Full programme information is available now at: www.cowbridgemusicfestival.co.uk

For behind-the-scenes extras, follow the festival on Facebook and Twitter: facebook.com/cowbridgemusicfestival, and twitter.com/cowbridgemusic.

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Free Heritage bus service for Barry's Tall Ship event

HERITAGE buses provided by The Bus Depot, Barry, will be used to provide a free half-hourly service this Saturday and Sunday during the Tall Ship event in Barry.

The buses, provided by the Cardiff Transport Conservation Group, will include former Caerphilly, Pontypridd or Bedwas & Machen council vehicles .

These will run between a Park & Ride site at the Council Dock Offices next to Barry Docks Railway Station to Morrisons; and along Broad Street to and from the Island, between 11am and 5pm on both days.

The Bus Depot will be open to the public during the event. The Tall Ships weekend in Barry, September 1-2, will see a number of ships moored in Barry Dock, including the Tall Ship 'Stavros S Niarchos'.

There will be various interest activities such as craft stalls, pirates and street entertainers.

The Barry Railway will offer steam rides and a collection of vintage cars will be at Hood Road.

There will also be a rock music concert featuring live music from a range of groups including Brother Steve, The Relics, Shooting the Moon and Too Toned on Saturday and Big Mac's Wholly Soul Band, Blues Central and Wonderbrass on Sunday.

Heritage buses will be available to chaufer visitors around the attractions at the Tall Ships festival in Barry this weekend.

Letters Extra

A GREAT WEEK FOR EISTEDFOD!

I WISH to express my thanks to Rosalind Lewis of Llantwit Major for her hard work as fundraising organiser for the Welsh National Eisteddfod in the Llantwit Major area over the past two years.

Ros volunteered for the role and put in a huge amount of work, and with a group of supporters, who need to be congratulated for their hard work, they raised just over £20,000, which was amazing during these very difficult economic times.

I was pleased that the Eisteddfod was an outstanding success in the Vale, and again my thanks to all the officers and staff of the Vale Council who worked exceptionally hard over a long period to make sure that the Vale welcomed the Eisteddfod.

Personally, after playing a part in setting up the idea of bringing the Eisteddfod to Llandow, I must thank all the landowners for their tremendous support in making the event such a great success.

Many visitors from all over Wales will remember their great week in the Vale and I am sure they will return in the future.

COUN GWYN JOHN, Llantwit Major

Custom bike show and fun-day for Ellie

A CUSTOM bike show and funday in aid of children's charity Latch is set to return to Morrisons in Cardiff Bay this Sunday (September 2) following a successful debut at the same store last year.

Most of the displays and events are returning for this years' event, including custom bikes, trikes and classics coming down on the day; police, fire service and army displays; vintage cars; a funfair; the play bus; the falconry UK team; various stalls, trade stands and refreshments; and a beauty tent where you can have your nails and hair done.

There will also be a vintage bus running every hour to the Tall Ships Festival at Barry Waterfront to take visitors between the two events.

A grand raffle is taking place with tickets still available up to and on the day.

The price of a ticket is only £1, and the draw will take place at 3.30pm on the day.

If any vintage car owners in the area wish to display on the day, call Roger Clarke at the Morrisons store in Cardiff Bay to get involved.

Leigh Gruffydd Sanders

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Out and About with The GEM

What's on, and where?

Clairvoyance

CADOXTON Christian Spiritualist Church, Kenilworth Road, is holding an evening of clairvoyance with Daryl Jenkins on September 1 at 7pm.

Admission £5. Proceeds in aid of church renovations.

Stroke advice

AN adviser from the Stroke Association will provide advice on 'available support services'. The event is at Bethel Road Church Hall, Beryl Road, Barry, on Tuesday, September 4 from 10am-12 midday.

Contact 01446 732385 for further information.

Flower arrangers

COWBRIDGE and District Flower Arrangers Club's next meeting is at 7.30pm on Wednesday, September 5 in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge Town Hall.

Rob Wallace will give a demonstration entitled 'contemporary floristry'. A warm welcome awaits.

Bingo move

COMMUNITY Bingo run every Wednesday at 7pm, from the Children's Centre, Ramsey Road, Gibbonsdown, is relocating to the Colcot Community Centre from September 5 (6.30pm). New members of all ages welcome.

Autumn trip

LLANTWIT MAJOR Horticultural Society is organising an autumn trip to the Malvern Hills on October 7, including Picton Court garden and nursery, and the restored arts and crafts garden at Perrycroft. Contact Elizabeth Rees on 01446 750387. All welcome.

Childbirth Trust nearly new sale

A NEARLY new sale will be held at Barry Comprehensive School on Saturday, September 8, from 11am-12.30pm.

Entrance/suggested donation £1 per family; baby/children's clothes, toys, equipment (eg. prams) and maternity wear. Sellers contact Julie on 01656 662564 to pre-register by Wednesday, September 5 (and for details of what can or can't be sold) or email nctnearlynewsales@live.co.uk.

Donations, cakes and raffle prizes gratefully received. Proceeds in aid of The National Childbirth Trust Vale and Valleys branch.

It is raising funds to train three breastfeeding counsellors and two antenatal teachers.

Donations are welcome by going to the following website at: *www.nct.org.uk/in-your-area/southwales.*

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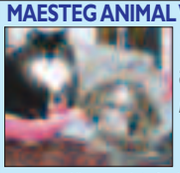

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Thanking everyone for their continued support

Oscars in the Good Food Guide

OSCARS in Cardiff and Cowbridge have won inclusion in the Good Food Guide 2013.

The prestigious guide features the best restaurants, pubs and cafes throughout the UK and this is the first year that Cardiff restaurants have been included:

"We are thrilled to be one of the first restaurants in Cardiff to be associated with the high status and quality that the Good Food Guide boasts, said Leigh Foreman, of the Town and Country Hotels' group.

"Three restaurants from the Cardiff area have been included, and it's an honour to have helped put Cardiff firmly on the culinary map – where it should have been a long time ago!"

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Varied music line-up for Tall Ship Festival

ORGANISERS are promising a feast of entertainment and music during this weekend's Barry Waterfront Tall Ship Festival.

The festival (September 1-2) will feature two days of family fun, including a feast of music from a number of popular bands, and a chance to look around the Tall Ship *Stavros S Niarchos.*

Another ship, the Baltic Trader, *The Ruth*, was also due in dock for the festival, but unfortunately it is currently in Liverpool and adverse weather conditions have prevented it from sailing down in time for the weekend.

A Vale Council spokesman said: "Bands will be on stage on both days from approximately 12:30pm.

"An energetic Saturday evening line-up will climax with 'Too Toned' and 'The Relics', while Sunday will be a more chilled-out, soulful day featuring an acoustic set from local 13-year-old Scot Hawtins and bands such as 'Blues Central', 'Wonderbrass' and Big Mac's Wholly Soul Band" *The music line-up is as follows.*

Saturday: 12:45pm – Them Deadbeats; 1:45pm – Still Waiting; 2:45pm – Studio 41; 3:30pm – The Town; 5pm – Freeway; 6:30pm – Too Toned; 8:30pm – The Relics.

Sunday: 12:30pm – Gentleman Prefer Blondes; 2pm – Scott Hawtins; 3pm – Blues Central; 4:30pm – Wonderbrass; 6pm – Big Mac's Wholly Soul Band.

The bumper family weekend will also include street entertainers, stalls, vintage cars and steam engines, a children's miniature railway, and a fairground, while you can also meet some salty seadogs in the pirate village!

Entrance to the festival is free, but charges will apply for certain attractions. For further details please call 01446 704737 or go online at www.visitthevale.com

Ty Hafan lottery draw: *latest prizewinners*

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D737.

- **£2,000:** 116795.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £6,000, was not won this week.**
- **£10:** 510790, 870957, 448049, 156143, 237661, 515318, 205025, 422317, 657077, 216685, 756120, 609789, 508548, 250789, 439594, 136674, 662593, 101991, 562481, 703208.
- **£5:** 353011, 448774, 781215, 952812, 580856, 410574, 118619, 693426, 832597, 490094, 442339, 574835, 162341, 372914, 663107, 529545, 769700, 318859, 737670, 169131, 803930, 572952, 616538, 147775, 366533, 793630, 414724, 801078, 521469, 760886, 660467, 151688, 694018, 281387, 429038, 189625, 406630, 693312, 435266, 372580, 362139, 734127, 709476, 802301, 148931, 850507, 517152, 877190, 485627, 327367, 249109, 433542, 356911, 117178, 588683, 260481, 791352, 367025, 787856, 942099.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

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This Impostor leaves an indelible mark...

THE phrase that real life is stranger than fiction is never truer than in the world of documentary.

Since Michael Moore showed that there was both demand, and in turn plenty of box office, for cinematically released documentaries, we've seen all forms of human life on the big screen, from feuding arcade gamers to youngsters competing in spelling bees, and everything in between.

The latest documentary to hit the big screen is *The Impostor*, a film by Bart Layton, which tells the story of a family who are shocked when their son, who went missing four years previously, suddenly turns up in Spain; however all is not as it seems, and as the identity of the son is called into question, so too are a whole manner of incidents that make the reappearance the tip of the iceberg...

Given the paucity of original storylines emanating from Hollywood, it's no surprise that cinemagoers are being drawn into real-life stories that offer far more than their fictional counterparts; so when handed a story that could have been ripped straight from the pages of a film, you're left with something a bit more intriguing than first intended.

Bart Layton was on to a winner when given the story of Nicholas Barclay, whose disappearance and subsequent reappearance as the impostor of the title, Frederic Bourdin, proves to be the tipping point of a story that goes in some unexpected directions.

Layton, who has previously worked with television documentaries, is more than comfortable within this genre and it shows – he is surefooted with the story, teasing little reveals and keeping the story flowing, while the mixture of atmospheric visuals and talking heads is well balanced.

by GARETH JAMIESON

Follow Screen Talk on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk

A documentary is only as strong as the actual story allows, and going into the film cold is the best way – the more you learn through the film the greater the impact it creates, moving into unexpected directions. Your response as a viewer will range from incredulity that the family could ever think that Bourdin could be an older Barclay, to humour as Bourdin seemingly gets away with his behaviour to disgust and concern as Layton's sly reveals push the story into a new direction.

Layton is also good at passing little in the way of judgement on his subjects. Their behaviour is delivered matter-of-factly to the viewer who can make their own minds up about the actions of Bourdin and the family of Barclay as the story progresses. You do get the feeling that at times Layton is playing the dramatic card a little heavily, a last act reveal intriguing but also feeling ever so slightly forced.

The Impostor is however a most riveting documentary which engages on every level, and Layton shows himself askilled storyteller with a most compelling narrative.

VERDICT – An incredibly interesting documentary which feels larger than life at times, *The Impostor* is a well-told story that surprises at every turn. Well marshalled by Bart Layton, it is a film that is certainly worth seeking out, and a wonderful alternative to the generic output of Hollywood at present. *Highly recommended*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Capturing The Friedmans* (2003), *Catfish* (2010)

Two regional AMs press the Assembly to set up a cancer treatment fund

WELSH Conservative regional AMs Suzy Davies and Byron Davies attended the launch of a petition calling on the Welsh Assembly Government to set up a £5 million cancer treatment fund to pay for cancer drugs and advanced radiotherapy and other treatments for patients in Wales.

Suzy Davies said that many drugs routinely given to English cancer patients are not available in Wales.

She said: "Recent independent research by the Rarer Cancer Foundation found that there are 24 cancer medicines routinely prescribed in England which are not easily available to patients in Wales.

"People who are seriously ill with cancer should not be having to fight to get the treatment they need when over the border they would have it without question."

Byron Davies said that the petition was calling for more cancer treatments to be available – not just drugs.

"There are innovations in radiosurgery like Cyber Knife and Gamma Knife, which people in Wales cannot access at all," he said. "Patients have had to go to England.

"A £5million fund would make all these treatments available to either save or prolong lives."

Those who want to sign the petition can find it online at: yourvoiceintheassembly.co.uk.

PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS IN THE GARW

THE Garw valley has a rich industrial history and once had a total of six working pits in the shape of Lluest, Ffaldau, Darren, Glenafon, International and Garw with Ffaldau and Garw being the last to close in 1985.

Now the area has substantially changed and the old railway beds that once transported passengers as well as freight are no longer in use, but instead have been turned into paths that can be enjoyed by cyclists, runners and walkers for leisure activities.

Recently, Rachel and Clive were joined by 10 walkers on a wet morning for a trip up to the Garw valley and hopefully the chance of better weather later in the day.

From Blackmill where the Afon Ogwr Mawr and Fach are joined to form the River Ogmore which reaches the Bristol Channel near Ogmore-by-Sea the group tramped along part of the Ogmore valley cycle route beside the Ogwr Fawr River.

Having climbed to the edge of an oak forest on Craig Tal-y-fan, fern and gorse lined tracks led to open access land, and having joined part of the Ogwr Ridgeway Walk, they crossed the road to join the Garw Valley cycle track, which begins at Bryngarw House and runs through the old disused railway line to Blaengarw.

After coffee, they moved on to reach Bettws crossing the common with its group of grazing horses, and, unfortunately, the site of a burned out school.

After some road-walking, the group re-entered fields that were covered with the invasive Himalayan Balsam as the rain got heavier.

An access point on the Garw Valley cycle track which is constructed in a deep ravine that had been blasted through, led the group along the flattest part of their route. .

Lunch and a chance to dry out as the rain had stopped was taken at a children's play area complete with benches and a picnic table before the group headed along a bridle path and prepared to climb up onto the open moorland of Pen y Foel by way of Nant Llwyncria.

As the mist cleared, they were rewarded with extensive views of the surrounding countryside and across the channel to Exmoor.

A dry stone-walled track led them to Cae Abbot complete with a church and pub as well, and after a brief stop to view the churchyard they crossed farmland and tramped beside the Ogwr Fawr back to Blackmill where they enjoyed a drink before the journey home.

On September 1, meet at 8.30am at Cogan for a 12-mile moderate walk from the Fourteen Locks to Twmbarlwm; contact Val on 02920 706315/Terry on 02920 595791.

On September 2, meet at 9am (not 9.30am, as in the programme) for a 12-mile hard walk at Pen y Gadair, Waun Fach and Pen Trumau; contact Robin on 02920 514051.

To follow the group please log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com. Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 02920 255102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Trehill lecture

AMONGST the various historic features of the Vale recently noted at the National Eisteddfod was its wealth of chapels: one of these is Trehill Presbyterian Church, St Nicholas, founded by Howell Harris in 1740.

That close connection with the great Methodist reformer is cherished by the church and a new lectureship has been established to celebrate that fact.

The first lecture will be delivered on Wednesday, September 5th at the church at 7pm, when Professor Densil Morgan of t4he University of wales, Lampeter, a distinguished historian of welsh Christianity in the 20th century, will lecture of 'Howells Howells Trehill and Methodism in the Vale of Glamorgan".

An added interest is that Prof Morgan's book on Matthews Ewenny was launched at the Eisteddfod.

Calling all past members.

A warm welcome awaits you.

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Highlight Park Community Centre, Barry
Anna Marie - 01446 736534

MONDAY
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The Tadross Hotel, Holton Road (next to Bassett Park)
Lorraine - 01446 407002

Rhoose
5.30pm &7.30pm
Celtic Way Community Centre, Celtic Way
Helen - 01446 750738

Penarth
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Elfed Avenue Methodist Church, Elfed Road
Nia - 07793 885581

TUESDAY
Barry - 5.30pm
Holy Trinity Presbyterian Church, Trinity Street
Joanne - 01446 404897

Barry - 4.30pm
St. Davids Methodist Church Hall, Winston Road
Annamarie - 01446 736534

Llantwit Major
5.30pm & 7.30pm
Our Lady & St Illtyd Church (Catholic) Ham Lane East
Helen - 01446 750738

Sully - 6.30pm
The Old School South Road
Niki - 01446 740394

WEDNESDAY
Barry
4.45 & 6.45pm
St. Francis Millennium Centre, Park Road, Porth-y-Castell
Annamarie - 01446 736534

Barry - 6.00pm
Cadoxton Methodist Church Church Road
Joanne - 01446 404897

Penarth
9.30am & 11.45am
All Saints Church Hall Victoria Square
Tracy - 07894 275853

Penarth
5.00pm & 7.00pm
All Saints Church Hall Victoria Square
Tracy - 07894 275853

THURSDAY
Cowbridge - 9.30am
Cowbridge Rugby Club
Rob - 07708 941279

Dinas Powys
5.30pm & 7.30pm
The Cabin by swimming pool, Hebron Hall
Sarah - 07525852288

Barry - 10.15am
St Helen's Church Hall Wyndham Street
Niki - 01446 740394

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Butlin's recalled

Several pages in a new book about Butlin's are devoted to the Butlin's Camp at Barry Island and wil be of interest to former staff members and those that visited the camp.

THE name Butlin's has been synonymous with seaside holiday camps and wholesome family entertainment for generations.

A new book, *An Illustrated History of Butlin's*, by Derek Tait, and published by Amberley Publishing at £14.99, captures those nostalgic times with the help of some 180 pictures which seem to bounce off the pages.

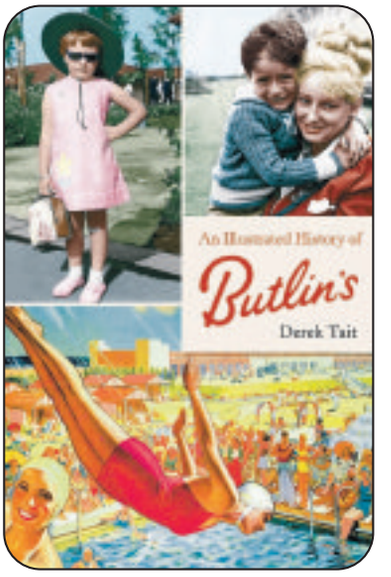
There are smiles galore on every page as the campers enjoy the talent contests, funfair rides, roller skating and beauty pageants.

Several pages are devoted to the campsite at Barry Island which was opened in 1966 and closed 30 years later in 1996.

Holidays have changed a great deal since those days, but many remember the barrack-type chalets and the endless on-site entertainment, competitions and dodgem cars.

This light-hearted book is a permanent reminder of those happy, care free days.

BRIAN LEE



Derek Tait's An Illustrated History of Butlin's takes anybody who ever spent a holiday at one of the camps down memory lane.

RECORD FINES

WARDENS on the look-out for littering and dog fouling issued a record number of fines last week.

The local authority support company, XFOR, issued 89 fixed penalty notices in the Vale during the week commencing August 20.

Assuming that all 89 fines are collected, the company will have collected £6,675 over the course of the week.

A Vale Council spokeswoman said: "XFOR, which has been tasked by the Vale Council to help tackle dog fouling and littering incidents in the Vale, is taking a zero tolerance approach to environmental crimes, where offenders will be issued with a fixed penalty notice of £75 without warning."

To find out more, visit the council's website at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/recycle

NEW ZUMBA GOLD CLASSES
starting
Wednesday, 5th September
at
Barry YMCA, The Hub, Court Road
11.30am - 12.15pm; 6.30pm - 7.15pm
First class is FREE on Wednesday, 5th September only

Monday 10th September
Llandough Institute Hall, Penlan Road, Llandough
6.15pm - 7.00pm

Zumba Gold Classes resume
Monday, 10th September
Barry Memorial Hall
11.30am

Wednesday, 5th September
10am at Sully Old School

For further information, please call Tracey
07966 242933

WHAT'S ON / *IN BRIEF*

FoE meeting

THE next meeting of Barry&Vale Friends of the Earth will be in the Castle Hotel, Jewel Street, Barry, at 7pm-7.30pm on Tuesday, September 4.

The campaigning focus of FoE this year will be on clean energy, not energy from dirty incineration or irresponsible recycling policies.

Waverley steams

PADDLE steamer Waverley sails at 9.30am from Penarth Pier this Sunday (September 2) for the 27th annual church service on the National Trust island of Lundy.

The service this year will have particular significance as it will follow traditional Evensong from the Book of Common Prayer in the 350th anniversary year of the prayer book that has been used in the Anglican Church throughout the world since 1662.

The priest at the service in the Victorian church of St Helena will be Rev Malcolm Davies, Missions to Seamen Chaplain for the Port of Barry and former Rector of the beautiful Church of St Peter – 'the Cathedral of the Rhondda'.

Full details on: 08451 304647, or: www.waverleyexcersions.co.uk.

Age Concern

AGE CONCERN Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, Holton Road, Barry will be closed from August 30-September 18 for long-awaited refurbishments.

During this period, meet at Salem Baptist Church, Beryl Road for tea/coffee and information services; on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (10.15am-11.45am) and Wednesday (11.15am-11.45am).

'Stitch and Bitch' class will be on Mondays (10.15am-11.45am) and extend class on Wednesday (10.15am-11am).

Enjoying a fantastic day at the Vale Show!

THE Vale Show is always a popular event with visitors, stall holders and competitors alike.

It is also a big hit with local photographers, because there are so many opportunities for images that are bright, unusual, exciting or just plain quirky!

PHOTOGRAPHS by **GLYN EVANS**

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:
e-mail ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk
telephone 07791 228684.
Visit our studio in the Wool Barn, Verity's Court, Cowbridge.

See Page 23 for Vale Show results, and see next week for more pictures and results.

Residents are warned about bogus council officer visits

VALE Council Trading Standards officers are warning residents of a scam involving hoax visits from officials claiming to be from the council tax department.

Reports have been received of callers posing as officers from the authority's council tax department, and then asking for large amounts of personal information, including date of birth and national insurance numbers.

"Staff from the Vale Council are not gathering this information and will not ask for these details. There are concerns that this person is imitating council workers to gain information to be used for fraudulent purposes," said Principal Trading Standards officer Christina Roberts-Kinsey. "If a person cold calls and states they are from the council, please ask to see their identification card.

"If you have any doubts as to their authenticity, please do not let them into your property, or provide them with any information.

"If you are in any doubt, or if you require information relating to your council tax account, you are advised to contact the Vale Council tax section on 01446 700111."

She added that anyone who thinks they have received a similar call should report it to Citizens Advice by calling 08454 04 05 06.

This information is immediately sent to the council's Trading Standards.

Quiz League questions

HERE are this week's fab-four:

1) Who sang the 1990 hit record 'Sacrifice'?

2) Which artist painted the picture 'The Scream'?

3) When Sebastian Coe retained his 1500m title in the 1984 Olympics, which British athlete won the silver medal?

4) Which monarch of the 17th century borrowed one million pounds and instigated what we now know as the National Debt in 1693?

A Rudge
(for Quiz League)

ANSWERS:
1) Elton John.
2) Edvard Munch.
3) Steve Cram.
4) William III.

International Sheepdog Trials

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by GEM REPORTER

WHENEVER people start talking about favourite TV programmes, you can guarantee that sooner or later, the series *One Man and his Dog* will be mentioned.

What's more, the conversation will then turn to wondering why the show, which gave an insight into the world of sheepdogs and their handlers, is no longer on primetime TV.

It was at its height in the 1980s, but since 2000, fans have had to be content with the occasional special, usually at Christmas.

It is unquestionably a programme that evokes fond memories, and seems to be equally popular with country folk and city dwellers.

Next week, fans will get a chance to combine nostalgia with a real life, close-up look at the world of sheepdog trials, because over three days (September 6–8), the brightest dogs and the sharpest shepherds will be here in the Vale!

It will be serious stuff too, because a prize fund of £100,000 is at stake!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20

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International Sheepdog Trials

6th, 7th & 8th September at Redlands Farm, Bonvilston

INTERNATIONAL TRIALS SEE THE BEST OF THE BEST COME TO TOWN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19

The International Sheepdog Trials, billed as the biggest event of its kind in the world, takes place in Bonvilston.

In effect, it is the Home Internationals, and will involve around 80 of the finest sheepdogs from the four home countries of the UK – not forgetting their handlers!

An event spokeswoman told The GEM that thousands of visitors, from all over the world, are expected to attend.

The competition format is that each home nation will put forward a team of 15 dogs, with five reserves.

It conjures up an image of the team manager bringing on an 'impact sub' from the bench, but that is probably straying a little too far into rugby and football territory!

There will be an individual element to the competition as well. The top 15 dogs will go forward to a grand final on the third and final day.

The three-day spectacle will, therefore, culminate with the crowning of a new supreme champion.

There will also be a young handler competition and an 'International Brace' Championship which, to the uninitiated, means one handler working with two dogs!

This year's event features a food and country festival and has Welsh Government First Minister Carwyn Jones as president.

The impressive list of sponsors includes the Welsh Government, the Vale Council, Tesco, and Gilbertson and Page.

The Welsh team will be led by Pentrefoelas farmer Arthur Roberts and his dog, Chip. Arthur has only missed one international since 1974, when he was best man at a friend's wedding.

He is the third generation of his family to compete, since his father and grandfather were triallers, with his own son, Eilir, following on, and daughter Catrin, a psychology lecturer, also very involved.

He said: "It's an honour to lead Wales, and it's unexpected. It's a combination of having the right dog and things working in our favour."

The Welsh team comprises:

1: Arthur Roberts with *Chip*.
2: Angie Driscoll with *Meg*.
3: Aled Owen with *Gypsy*.
4: Gerald Lewis with *Splash (Flash)*.
5: Medwyn LL Evans with *Jan*.
6: Dan Jarman with *Jaff*.
7: Alun Jones with *(Selatyn) Kate*.
8: Harcourt Lloyd with *Kilcreen Jess*.
9: Kevin Evans with *Greg*.
10: I B Jones with *Tanhill Joe*.
11: Jeff Hudd with *Tysswg Nell*.
12: Lyn M Howells with *Max*.
13: Robert Ellis with *Mirk*.
14: John Bowen with *Belle*.
15: Richard M Millichap with *Dewi Tweed*.

Reserve: Aled Owen and *Mac*.

Brace: 1: Ian Jones with *Tom and Jess*.
2: Glyn Jones with *Don and Zak*.

Driving: Jeff Hudd with *Tysswg Nell*.

Young handler: Ben Owen and *Cael*.

The 2012 International is being hosted by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Tudor Harris.

The location is Redland Farm near Bonvilston, in the Vale of Glamorgan, CF5 6TQ.

For more information about the event, or to buy tickets, visit www.international-sheepdogtrials.org.uk

Three-day entry tickets are £20. Three-day passes offer a saving of £4 over the course of the event.

Single day entry passes are £8 and can be purchased at the gate.

Persons under 16 years of age enter free of charge.

Tickets are an entry ticket only and do not give a seat in the grandstand. Grandstand tickets must be purchased separately. A three-day grandstand ticket is £25.

TV HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights from these International Trials can be seen on S4C on Monday, September 10 at 9pm.

Bydd uchafbwyntiau'r Treialon Rhyngwladol yma i'w gweld ar S4C, nos Lun 10ed o Fedi am 9pm.

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Hillman sevens proves a success

Picture by Gareth Davies

SEVERAL hundred people attended Waterton Cross on bank holiday Sunday, to support the inaugural Colin Hillman Invitation Sevens.

The day was a huge success and all teams that entered deserve a huge thank you. Samurai Sharks looked very dangerous from the start, with a star-studded team, and were the eventual winners, beating a South Wales Police Hillman 7 in the final.

To reach the final, the Samurai Sharks had to first beat a Dinas Powys team that put up a great performance and didn't roll over for the far more experienced Samurai team; the SWP Hillman seven had to see off Glaze Charity Select team entered by Ray Giles.

GLAZE Prostate Charity, Wales is the leading charity in the principality working with medical professionals in the battle against all prostate diseases, benign and malignant.

Its mission is to raise awareness, promote understanding and fund both the latest medical equipment and the training of healthcare professionals.

Another highlight of the day saw Kenfig Hill under-8s play Bridgend Sports under-8s in a tag exhibition game before the semi final, Both teams played some fantastic rugby

The wheels are already in motion to announce the date for the second tournament in 2013.

KM

Ladies Day: good turnout *(and the weather holds off as well)* at Cottrell Park!

THERE was a good turnout for the lady members and guests' competition at Cottrell Park on Thursday, August 16.

A team consisting of a lady member and two guests played a Stableford competition, the best two out of three scores counting on each hole.

It was a pleasant day, with refreshments provided by the Cottrell ladies at the halfway house.

Judy James, the ladies' team captain, thanked Mary Watkins, the competition secretary, for all her hard work in organising the competition, and other ladies for their support.

The team winners were Lorna Howells, with her guests Liz Fine from Brynhill; and Sue Gibson from Glamorganshire, with 83 points.

Jen Thomas, with guests Gail Mills and Diane Dancy from Llantrisant, were second; and Jan Cosby, with guests Alison Hurry, Pyle and Kenfig, and Sue Williams, Bromsgrove, were third, with 77 points.

Nearest the pin on the eighth green was Liz Fine, and Brenda Leaver, Celtic Manor was closest on the 15th.

The longest drive up to 25 Handicap was Amy Rees, Southerndown, and 26+ Handicap was Carolyn McKenzie, St Athan.

Nine ladies achieved a two on their card and won golf balls.

Judy James thanked all who had attended and hoped every one had enjoyed the day. CB

PG13 earn International Cup success in Cardiff

PG10 Coaching under-13s have been successful in winning the prestigious Welsh International Super Cup, recently held in Cardiff.

The Welsh International Super Cup attracts teams from across the world and has a seen huge international stars, such as Dwight Yorke, Michael Owen, Steven Gerrard, Robbie Fowler, Tomas Rosicky, Andriy Shevchenko and many more, play in the prestigious tournament over the years. This year's event included teams from Trinidad and Tobago, Africa, Malta, Dubai, Qatar .

It was the second international football tournament, PG10 has entered in three months, after shining in Dubai, where its junior side won the Dubai International Super Cup.

The team was made up of players that attend local secondary schools, such as Ysgol Gyfn Bro Morgannwg, Cowbridge and Llantwit Major Comprehensive schools

Head coach Peter Griffiths commented: "The players performed to a high standard throughout the week, developing their football skills, but also experiencing different cultures by mixing with young people from across the world.

"The tournament is a unique event and with Cardiff also hosting Olympic Games events, this certainly was a fantastic time for international teams to visit Wales and enjoy their football!" **PG**

LITTLE STARS GET CHANCE TO SHINE

As the rugby season gets under way, budding players of the future can sign up for the new term of the Welsh Rugby Union's 'Little Stars' courses which are being held in Barry, Penarth and Cowbridge.

Taking place in local leisure centres, the 'Little Stars' courses focus on the fundamental skills of rugby such as catching, throwing, agility, balance and co-ordination, and everything is taught in a really fun way.

The sessions are held for two different age groups, and for the youngest children, aged three-years-old to four, the sessions are themed with plenty of varied games being played.

For the older kids, aged five to seven, naturally a bit more rugby is introduced so that the youngsters can develop their skills and gain more of an understanding of the game.

WRU coach Sophie Wilkinson, who runs the sessions in the Vale, said: "Little Stars is a new exciting way to introduce rugby.

"There is parent involvement in the younger class, too, so be prepared!

"Youngsters are able to join mini rugby clubs once they are six-years-old, so the older sessions are therefore a bit more advanced, with a bit of tag rugby being played and more of a focus on fundamental rugby skills."

Further in formation can be obtained from Sophie Wilkinson on 07584 488290.

For details of other local sports clubs and courses, please visit www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/sportsandplay.

THE ITALIANS IN WALES

THE Barry U3A autumn programme starts with a talk by Mr Romeo Bassini on the Italian heritage in Wales, at 2pm on September 3, in New Jerusalem Hall (opposite Barry Library).

All are welcome: Monthly meetings; groups – genealogy, walking, poetry and prose, luncheon club, art history, and literature.

For further information, contact John on 01446 413328, or the Barry U3A website.

Story deadline

STORYLAB readers at Cowbridge Library have until Saturday, September 8, to finish their books.

CATHEDRAL SCHOOL MARKS 'FABULOUS' GCSE RESULTS

The Cathedral School, Llandaff, which has pupils from throughout the local area, has reported two thirds of all GCSE entries graded A* or A, with 100 per cent of pupils gaining five or more examinations graded A*-C.

At the top end, three quarters of pupils gained five or more A* and A grades, including Claire Shadwell who gained 12 A*s, and Samuel Vaughan (eight A*s and three As).

Headmaster Stephen Morris expressed his joy at the results.

He said: "Once again, these are fabulous results. Well done to all of our pupils."

The school will host an open morning on Saturday, October 6, from 10am-12:30pm.

Local Cathedral School pupils celebrate their GCSE results.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995

Listed Building Consent/ Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2012/00890/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Proposed works include replacing the shop front window at Unit 8, Penarth Pier (replacement on a like for like basis)
Location:/Lleoliad: Unit 8, Penarth Pier, Esplanade, Penarth
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2012/00898/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolish existing conservatory linking the Pheasant House and the Dovecote. Construct new enlarged conservatory on broadly the same footprint
Location:/Lleoliad: The Pheasant House and Dovecote, Nash Manor, Cowbridge
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2012/00906/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Erect proprietary timber garden room to rear of property
Location:/Lleoliad: The Three Tuns, St. Nicholas
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Affecting setting of a Listed Building/ Cais (au) sy'n effeithio ar leoliad Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2012/00856/OUT
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolish existing dwelling at Orchard Rise, No 6 Penlan Road, Llandough, CF64 2LT and construct two new dwellings with associated parking
Location:/Lleoliad: Orchard Rise, 6, Penlan Road, Llandough
Listed Building:/ Adeilad Rhestredig Affecting Pound Cottage, Grade II

Application(s) of General Interest/ Ceisiadau o Ddiddordeb Cyffredinol

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2012/00862/OUT
Proposal:/Cynnig: Outline erection of 40 dwellings with associated access and landscaping. All matters reserved
Location:/Lleoliad: Former Emporium Garden Centre, Fferm Goch, Llangan

May affect a Public Right of Way / Gall effeithio ar Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2012/00877/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Construction of new forestry track
Location:/Lleoliad: Ty Cerrig, Bonvilston

Departure from Development Plan / Gwyro o'r Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/ Rhif y cais: 2012/00862/OUT
Proposal:/Cynnig: Outline erection of 40 dwellings with associated access and landscaping. All matters reserved
Location:/Lleoliad: Former Emporium Garden Centre, Fferm Goch, Llangan

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via **www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk**
Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy **www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk**

Dated / Dyddiedig: 30 August, 2012
M. Goldsworthy, Operational Manager Development & Building Control, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

CADOXTON'S BOWLERS SLIP TO FRIENDLY DEFEAT

A lovely evening, good company, and an enjoyable game was the outcome of the visit of St Fagans to Cadoxton, for a friendly fixture – but still no success.

John Stewart fell 7-1 behind, on his rink, after winning the first end. Over the next five ends they collected a further six shots, but unfortunately conceded a '5' and '3'. A further eight shots went to the visitors, before the last four ends were shared with singles.

In a closely contested game on Len Davies's rink the scores reached 8-8 after 11 ends. At this stage a gap opened against the home side when three '3's and a '2' were scored with just two singles in reply. The deficit was never closed.

The first three ends went to the home side, skipped by Howard Craven, but the advantage was cancelled out after the next three. The lead was regained for a score of 11-9 after 10 ends. A '5' followed by six losing ends to prevent any success.

Don Kuhnell's rink had ten winning ends during the game, five of which were singles on the opening ends with the opposing skip preventing anything higher with good bowls. The game was levelled 6-6 after nine ends. From this period the advantage went to and fro and with three ends left the scores were level again.

A good slice of luck on the penultimate end took away a count of four with the St Fagans skip's last bowl, to leave the home side 3 shots down. A further count of four on the final end, which would have won the game, was also turned over, when the jack was moved to make four against, but the shot was drawn with the last bowl for the home side, unfortunately not enough to win.

Scores: G Powell, L Adams, S Clarke, J Stewart 9 - 25 D Pettican, M Morgan, J Russell, P Hamer; J Stacey, M Mathews, D Evans, D Kuhnell 12 - 14 J Daniels, A Sutton, P Snook, C Chapman; I Robertson, A Turner, J Sugden, L Davies 13 –18 P Jones, J Wootten, P Ostrich, D Morgan; G Solomon, R Knight, G Brown, H Craven 13 - 24 B Leho, A Lerwell, J Ellis, J Gibson. Final score: 47 - 81.

Cadoxton v Millwood – This rearranged match at Millwood, on a night interrupted by showers, completed the Munro Cup fixtures for the season.

Cadoxton came out on top with three successful rinks. Graham Brown led his rink to a comprehensive win against Keith Davies.

They were totally in control, except for four losing ends, one of which was a '6' conceded on the 15th end. This big margin more than covered the only defeated rink, which was skipped by Don Kuhnell, who gave an unusually poor performance. However, his lead, Gil Powell, gave an outstanding performance with accurate close bowls throughout the game and did not deserve to be on the losing side.

Howard Craven's rink scored a '5' on the third end against Andrew Hatcher, but trailed 7-5 after six ends. However, for the remainder of the game, they were always on top. After 14 ends they held a 14-11 advantage, which was followed with a '3' and another '5' to open a commanding lead with two ends left. Each side finished with a '2'.

A closer game was played between Derek Brook's rink and Brian Crockford. After 5 ends the scores were tied at 4 each. Neither side were allowed to build a substantial advantage until the visitors scored a '4' on the 14th end to open up a 5 shot lead. Over the next three ends this was cut back to just a single shot. Nevertheless a single on the last ensured the points.

Scores: T Bishop, S Clarke, L Davies, G Brown 25 – 11 R Wills, G Whitehouse, B Gregory, K Davies; G Powell, M Mathews, J Sugden, D Kuhnell 10 – 17 C Peters, G Stone, M Williams, J Butler; I Robertson, J Stewart, K Chedgzoy, H Craven 24 – 13 P Childs, D Gorringe, A Bumford, A Hatcher; H Hellyar, J Crout, G Davies, D Brook 16 – 14 B Webb, S Black, J Slee, B Crockford. Final score: 75 - 55.

DK

COACH IS WANTED

Could you make a difference the development of girls' football?

The Vale Ladies & Girls Football Club currently has a coaching opportunity for one of its junior teams due to a highly successful summer recruitment programme.

Matches take place on Sunday mornings in the South Wales Girls League and training session on Wednesday evenings in the Barry area.

The club also supports its volunteers with coach education courses.

For more information please call 07832 273688 or email info@valegirlsfc.co.uk.

LW

Roller skating club's inaugural competition highlights Vale's talent

THE newly formed Glamorgan Artistic Roller Skating Club held its first club annual competition recently at Llantwit Major Leisure Centre.

Trophies were kindly donated privately or by local businesses.

Jane Hutt AM watched some of the events and seemed delighted by what she saw, and presented the trophies, medals and certificates.

Julie Whittingham from the Federation of Artistic Roller Skating had the difficult job of judging the six events.

Results: The Barry Tyre Centre Trophy -1st place Charleigh Griffith, 2nd place Erin Middleton, 3rd place Bailee Potter.

Barrett Butchers Trophy - 1st place Bethan Daly, 2nd place Hannah John, 3rd place Michael Vaughan.

George Morgan Memorial Trophy - 1st place Kaitlin Daly and Katie Vaughan, 2nd place Lara Goodwin and Hannah John, 3rd place Naomi Cooper and Phoebe Escott.

Tony Vodden Memorial Trophy - 1st place Katie Vaughan, 2nd place Kaitlin Daly, 3rd place Phoebe Escott.

Glamorgan Artistic Roller Skating Club Trophy -

This was a novelty free dance competition; the skaters choose their own music, make up, programme and dress: Results:1st place Kaitlin Daly, 2nd place Bethan Daly, 3rd place Emily Eveleigh.

There was a seventh trophy donated by our judge Julie Whittingham.

It was awarded for the most improved skater, chosen by head coach Sheilah Davies. This was kept a close secret until she announced Michael Vaughan as the winner.

Posies of flowers were given to Bethan Daly and Medi Western for their hard work and improvement in the last few months.

Following these events our coaches who give so much of their time, gave a short exhibition of a dance medley.

Donna Daly, Anne-Marie Escott, Amy Goodwin, Penny Phillips, Liz Vaughan and Leslie Fletcher, received great applause.

Bouquets were presented to Jane Hutt and Julie Whittingham.

Chocolates were given to the six coaches and to our overworked secretary Sheilagh Jones and to Chairlady Hilary Cridge.

If you would like to try this challenging but fun sport the club meets at Llantwit Major Leisure Centre on Saturday 3-00 to 5-00pm and at the Colcot Sport Centre on Tuesday 6-00 to 8-00pm. For more information e-mail, sheilagha0nn@hotmail.co.uk

SJ

VALE SHOW RESULTS 2012

CATTLE

CLASS 1: Bull born on or before 31/12/2010

First – Nigel Pritchard, Hyatt, Sarnesfield, Norton, Canon, Herefordshire.

CLASS 2: Bull born on or after 01/01/11

First – Nigel Pritchard, Hyatt, Sarnesfield, Norton, Canon, Herefordshire.

CLASS 3: Cow or heifer or with calf at foot or cow in calf

CLASS 4: Heifer in calf

CLASS 5: Maiden heifer

First – National History Museum, St Fagans, Cardiff.

CLASS 6: Pair owned by the same exhibitor

First – Nigel Pritchard, Hyatt, Sarnesfield, Norton, Canon, Herefordshire.

The Peter Wood and Sons Perpetual Challenge Cup for the Best Exhibit in the Any Other Beef Breed Classes

Winner – National History Museum, St Fagans, Cardiff.

The Miss Ellen Thomas Perpetual Challenge Cup for the Best Hereford Exhibit

No entries.

The Hereford Cattle Society special championship rosette for the Best Hereford Exhibit

No entries.

LIMOUSIN:

CLASS 7: Bull born on or before 31/12/10

First – E & N Phillips, Blackmeadows, Llantilio Crossenny, Abergavenny.

CLASS 8: Bull born on or after 01/01/11

First – David Howells, Gelli Farm, Cymmer, Port Talbot.

Second – Messrs Edwards & Sons, Ty Draw Farm, Maesycoed, Pontypridd.

Third – Thomas Jenkins & Sons, Torycoed Farm, Rhiwsaeson, Llantrisant, Mid Glam.

CLASS 9: Cow or heifer with calf at foot or cow in calf

First – E & N Phillips, Blackmeadows, Llantilio Crossenny, Abergavenny.

Second – WH Williams & Son, Dolau Ifan Ddu Farm, Blackmill Bridgend.

CLASS 10: Heifer in calf

First – Thomas Jenkins & Sons, Torycoed Farm, Rhiwsaeson, Llantrisant, Mid Glam.

Second – Arwyn Prichard, Vians Hill, St Nicholas, Cardiff.

CLASS 11: Maiden heifer

First – Thomas Jenkins & Sons, Torycoed Farm, Rhiwsaeson, Llantrisant, Mid Glam.

CLASS 12: Pair owned by the same exhibitor

First – E & N Phillips, Blackmeadows, Llantilio Crossenny, Abergavenny.

Second – David Howells, Gelli Farm, Cymmer, Port Talbot.

Third – Thomas Jenkins & Sons, Torycoed Farm, Rhiwsaeson, Llantrisant, Mid Glam.

The MT Board Cup for the best pair of Limousin cattle

Winner – E & N Phillips, Blackmeadows, Llantilio Crossenny, Abergavenny.

Vale Show championship rosette for the Best Male Champion

Champ – David Howells, Gelli Farm, Cymmer, Port Talbot.

Reserve – E & N Phillips, Blackmeadows, Llantilio Crossenny, Abergavenny.

Vale Show championship rosette for the Best Female Champion

Champ – Thomas Jenkins & Sons, Torycoed Farm, Rhiwsaeson, Llantrisant, Mid Glam.

Reserve – E & N Phillips, Blackmeadows, Llantilio Crossenny, Abergavenny.

Overall Limousin Championship

Champ – David Howells, Gelli Farm, Cymmer, Port Talbot.

Reserve – Thomas Jenkins & Sons, Torycoed Farm, Rhiwsaeson, Llantrisant, Mid Glam.

Limousin Cattle Society special rosette for the Champion and Reserve Champion in the Limousin section

Champ – David Howells, Gelli Farm, Cymmer, Port Talbot.

Reserve – National History Museum, St Fagans, Cardiff.

Arthur John and Co Perpetual Challenge Cup for the Best Exhibit in the Limousin classes

Winner – David Howells, Gelli Farm, Cymmer, Port Talbot.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Champion – David Howells, Gelli Farm, Cymmer, Port Talbot.

Reserve – Thomas Jenkins & Sons, Torycoed Farm, Rhiwsaeson, Llantrisant, Mid Glam.

Best Pair of Inter-breed Beef cattle owned by the same exhibitor (winner of classes 6 and 12)

The Dalgety Crosfield Cup for the Best Pair of Beef Cattle

Winner – E & N Phillips, Blackmeadows, Llantilio Crossenny, Abergavenny.

Interbreed beef championship (to be competed for by the champion of both beef sections)

The Herbert R Thomas Cup for the Best Exhibit in all the Beef Classes

Winner – David Howells, Gelli Farm, Cymmer, Port Talbot.

Beef Champion to receive Vale Show Beef Champion & Reserve Beef Champion rosettes

Holstein Classes

CLASS 13: Calf under 12 months on day of show

First – MA Webber & K Rickard, Castle Farm, Bishton, Newport.

Second – Clive Thomas, Dros Y Mor Farm, St Donats, Llantwit Major.

Third – Clive Thomas, Dros Y Mor Farm, St Donats, Llantwit Major.

Class 14: Maiden heifer over 12 and under 18 months on day of show

First – M A Webber & K Rickard, Castle Farm, Bishton, Newport.

Second – VJ Price & Son, Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan, Vale of Glamorgan.

Third – HD Hanks & Son, Ty Canol Farm, Llantrityd.

Mervyn Thomas Dros Y Mor Perpetual Challenge Trophy

Winner – MA Webber & K Rickard, Castle Farm, Bishton, Newport.

CLASS 15: Heifer in calf, to calve, no older than 36 months

First – HD Hanks & Son, Ty Canol Farm, Llantrityd.

Second – HD Hanks & Son, Ty Canol Farm, Llantrityd.

Third – RM Lougher & Son, Tytanglwst Farm, Pyle.

The Ladbrooke (Bridgend Creamery) Challenge Shield

Winner – HD Hanks & Son, Ty Canol Farm, Llantrityd.

CLASS 16: Cow in calf but not in milk – any age

First – RM Lougher & Son, Tytanglwst Farm, Pyle.

Second – VJ Price & Son, Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan, Vale of Glamorgan.

Third – Clive Thomas, Dros Y Mor Farm, St Donats, Llantwit Major.

CLASS 17: Heifer in milk

First – VJ Price & Son, Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan, Vale of Glamorgan.

Second – RM Lougher & Son, Tytanglwst Farm, Pyle.

CLASS 18: Junior cow in milk (second/third lactation only)

First – VJ Price & Son, Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan, Vale of Glamorgan.

Second – VJ Price & Son, Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan, Vale of Glamorgan.

Third – E Reader & Son, Goldsland Farm, Wenvoe.

CLASS 19: Senior cow in milk (fourth lacation and above)

First – RM Lougher & Son, Tytanglwst Farm, Pyle.

Second – RM Lougher & Son, Tytanglwst Farm, Pyle.

Third – VJ Price & Son, Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan, Vale of Glamorgan.

Golden Vale Dairies Cup

Winner – RM Lougher & Son, Tytanglwst Farm, Pyle.

In milk champion (eligible from classes 17, 18 and 19). Winners to receive Champion and Reserve Champion rosettes and The Glynne Clay Perpetual Challenge Cup for the Best Exhibit in the Holstein Classes

Winner/Champ – VJ Price & Son, Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan, Vale of Glamorgan.

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Winner – VJ Price & Son, Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan, Vale of Glamorgan.

Best exhibitor-bred champion and best udder in show. Both receive Holstein UK rosettes

Winner – VJ Price & Son, Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan, Vale of Glamorgan

CLASS 20: Group of eight in calf Holstein heifers to be judged on the farm, at least three weeks prior to the show.

First – RM Lougher & Son, Tytanglwst Farm, Pyle.

Second – G Anthony & Son, Haregrove Farm, Laleston.

Third – Jack Watts, Tynycwm Farm, Bedwas.

Fourth – VJ Price & Son, Trevithyn Farm, Llancarfan, Vale of Glamorgan.

Williams & Glynne Cup

Winner – RM Lougher & Son, Tytanglwst Farm, Pyle.

Any other pure Dairy Breed

CLASS 21: Maiden heifer, any breed other than Holstein

First – MA Webber & K Rickard, Castle Farm, Bishton, Newport.

Second – RP & KJ Granville, Gelli Farm, Cefn Cribbwr, Bridgend.

Third – E Reader & Son, Goldsland Farm, Wenvoe.

CLASS 22: Dairy Cow. Any breed other than Holstein

First – Caroline Morgan, Lower House Farm, Llanvair, Discoed, Chepstow.

Second – RP & KJ Granville, Gelli Farm, Cefn Cribbwr, Bridgend.

Third – E Reader & Son, Goldsland Farm, Wenvoe.

Richard Taylor Perpetual Challenge Cup

Winner – Caroline Morgan, Lower House Farm, Llanvair, Discoed, Chepstow.

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Suitable for a single person or couple over 55 – no pets
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- Parking/gardens

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- Communal gardens

Rent £76.94 per week including water charges

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- Ground floor
- Double glazing
- Central heating
- Communal gardens

Rent £76.94 per week including water charges

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H4U Reference 236104
Suitable for a family
- Three-bedroom house
- Central heating
- Double-glazing
- Gardens

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Important information for existing and new council tenants

From April 2013 Housing Benefit Rules are changing for 'working age' tenants who live in Council and Housing Association properties. If you are of pension age this chnage will not affect you.

Deductions will be made from Housing Benefit claim where a claimant is living in a property that is classed as too large for them. There will be a 14% deduction for one extra bedroom and a 25% deduction for two or more bedrooms.

To calculate room needs for a client, **one bedroom** is allowed for each of the following:

- every adult couple;
- any other adult aged over 16;
- any two children of the same sex up to age 16;
- any two children regardless of sex aged under 10; or
- any other child.

Foster children are not included in the calculation.

Examples

A single person (of working age) living in a two-bedroom property

The assessment of room need would be **one bedroom**, so a 14% deduction from their Housing Benefit would apply.

A couple (of working age) living in a three-bedroom property

The assessment of room need would be **one bedroom**, so a 25% deduction from their Housing Benefit would apply

A single parent or couple with a son aged 8 and a daughter aged 6, living in a three-bedroom property

The assessment of room need would be **two bedrooms**, so there would be a 14% deduction from their Housing Benefit

A single parent or couple with two daughters, aged 12 and 6, and a son aged 4, living in a three-bedroom property

The assessment of room need would be **three bedrooms**, so no deduction would apply.

FEEDBACK

Address	Bids	Band	Reg.
Aaron Close	82	Gold	14/09/11
Cadoc Crescent	71	Gold+	02/04/12
Coychurch Rise	38	Gold	28/05/12
Falcoaks	13	Silver	04/07/11
Plassey House	6	Gold	16/04/12
Severn Avenue	21	Bronze	25/06/12
Treharris Road	43	Gold+	28/05/12
Williams Crescent	58	Gold+	04/03/11

HomeSwapper

Please be aware of the above when making bids for properties in this advert as this may affect how much rent you pay.

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of these homes.
When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference.
All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness.
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A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's Office.

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Family Notices

THOROGOOD
Kenneth Arthur

Peacefully, on August 23rd at his home in Llantwit Major, Ken (Warrant Officer Retired, RAF).

Dearly loved husband of Elizabeth, loving father of Eileen and Steven, father-in-law of Alan and Yvonne, adored grandfather.
In our thoughts forever and ever.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday August 31st, service 12.30pm at St Illtuds Church, Llantwit Major followed by cremation at the Coity Chapel, Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 1.45pm.

Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home or donations in lieu if desired may be sent to The Galilee Chapel Fund, St Illtuds Church c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, CF62 3DZ

FLANDERS (nee Williams)
Agnes Elizabeth

Agnes, of Llantwit Major, passed away peacefully on 24th August with family at her side aged 83.

Beloved wife of Denzil, devoted and cherished mother to Alison and Paul, mamgu to Rachel, Jennifer, Patrick and David, and great-mamgu to Sophia, Grace and Michael.
Will be hugely and sadly missed by all.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon, Funeral to be held at 1.30pm on Thursday, 6th September at St Illtuds Church, Llantwit Major, followed by cremation at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend at 2.45pm.
Flowers may be sent to the Funeral Home.

Birthdays

Pauline Thomas
(née Burnett)
Happy 70th Birthday
September 4, 2012
Have a lovely time!
Love Tony, Ben, Simon, Perri, Neva and Carys XXX

John McGhan
Happy 50th Birthday
on September 3
Have a great day!
Lots of love, Wendy, Marcus, Kirsty, Lewis, Fraser and Peter XXX

JOHN MCGHAN
HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY, BAMPI
on September 3
Lots of love, Grace, Hugo and Darcie XXX

Robert Dixon
Happy 65th Birthday
on September 3rd
Love Elaine, Heather, Darren, Matt, Claire and all the grandchildren xxx

Happy 21st Birthday
CRISSY BROWN
on 1st September, 2012

'You'll always be my little man'
Lots of Love, Dad *x x x*

WILLIAMS
Grace Mary

Kathryn Edmondson and family wish to thank relations and friends for the messages of condolence, floral tributes and support received on the death of her beloved mother, Grace, and for their attendance at her funeral.

BILL WILLIAMS

I would like to thank family and friends for all the cards of sympathy following the sad loss of my very best friend and partner Bill.

I would also like to thank everyone for attending the funeral and the donations for the Myeloma Association.

Gisela Linton

PUGH, Jane
(of Dinas Powys)

A beloved mother, daughter, wife, sister and friend.

Peacefully at home with her daughters and Siamese cats on Tuesday, August 21st, 2012.

Thank you to friends and family for all your support.

BOWEN
Margaret

On Monday, 27th August 2012 at College Fields Nursing Home, Barry after a long illness, Margaret Ruth Mary, eldest daughter of the late Frank and Daisy Hawkins, much loved sister of Frances and the late Jose and Maureen, sister-in-law and friend of the late Gerald, loving aunt to her nephews and nieces.

Funeral Service at Coychurch Crematorium on Friday, 7th September at 1.45pm. Flowers may be sent to Thomas Brothers, Greengate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

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Ruthless Dinas go goal crazy with 12 against Institute!

Welsh League Division Two
CWMAMAN INSTITUTE 0
DINAS POWYS 12

THIS was a ruthless performance and once Dinas got their first goal there was going to be only one winner.

The visitors were the better side from the kick-off but couldn't make the most of their chances with Mathew Trottman, Robbie Fowler and player-manager Mark Dunford all having chances to open the scoring.

Dinas were dealt a blow when Trottman limped off to be replaced by Steffan Davies. He made an immediate impact but put his shot wide of the post. He didn't have to wait long though and when Steve Provis's through ball was inch perfect he finished by hooking the ball past keeper Lloyd Waghorn for the first goal.

Chris Hinam and Dunford both shot wide before Dinas got their second just a minute before half-time and again it was substitute Davies who met an excellent low cross from Fowler to fire in from close range. Dinas went in at half-time two goals to the good but nobody was prepared for what would happen in the second.

Cwmaman must have wondered what hit them as within a minute of the restart Fowler's early ball into the area was left by Davies to run on for Dunford who clinically finished from 12 yards.

On four minutes Dunford's ball inside the full-back forced a corner, Liam Jeremy played the ball short to Davies who returned the ball for Jeremy to put in a cross that beat everybody and the ball nestled in the back of the net. Ten minutes later following the introduction of sub Joe Hinds for Dunford, Jeremy scored his second and again the ball found the net this time direct from a corner.

Eighteen minutes into the second-half Davies completed his hat-trick, Adam Raymond won the ball in midfield and played the ball through for Davies to score from 15 yards. Two minutes later Davies was the provider heading a free-kick down for Fowler to steer his shot wide of the keeper and into the net.

On twenty-three minutes it was time for Raymond to get in on the act, he finished off a neat passing move with a low shot followed a couple of minutes later by Hinds heading in a Richard Yarr cross.

On the half-hour Hinds got his second goal with a shot from the edge of the area, nine minutes later came a fine solo effort from Robbie Fowler, taking the ball on the half-way line he went past three defenders before rounding the keeper deep in the area and shooting into an empty net.

There was still time for a second hat-trick and again it was scored by a substitute, Hinds heading in Yarr's cross to complete the scoring and Cwmaman's misery.

Games like this don't come along too often and the players will enjoy the celebrations but will be brought down to earth soon after ready for the next game.

Squad: 1 Damian Lack, 2 Steve Provis, 3 Chris Hinam, 4 Mike Lewis, 5 Rhys Davies, 6 Adam Raymond(1) (c), 7 Robbie Fowler (2), 8 Richard Yarr, 9 Mathew Trottman, 10 Mark Dunford(1), 11 Liam Jeremy(2), 12 Adrian Harvey, 14 James Williams, 15 Joe Hinds(3), 16 Steffan Davies(3).

WELSH LEAGUE DIVISION TWO:
ELY RANGERS 1
DINAS POWYS 3

Dinas have not yet hit the form they attained towards the end of last season but they are unbeaten so far with 2 draws and 2 wins under their belt and they proved too strong for Rangers at Wenvoe last Tuesday.

The home side gained the majority of possession in the opening minutes but it was Dinas who had the first meaningful attacks with Robbie Fowler on the right the first to trouble the Rangers' defence.

On a couple of occasions he got the better of his defender to produce excellent balls across the Rangers area but unfortunately the balls were just beyond the Dinas forwards. On 18 minutes Dinas went ahead when a rash challenge on Matt Trottman deep in the area saw the referee immediately point to the spot and player manager Mark Dunford stepped up to send keeper Hart the wrong way to score.

A couple of minutes later they doubled their lead with the best move of the game involving 5 players, the ball was swiftly transferred from defence to Adam Raymond in the area his accurate cross to the far post gave Fowler the easiest of tasks to slot the ball home from a couple of yards.

Rangers' Jordan Cottrell had a couple of long range shooting opportunities off target but just before half-time it was Dinas who should have added to their lead when Richard Yarr found Dunford in acres of space.

He moved forward but placed his shot not only wide of the keeper but also the post.

The lights came on for the second-half and Rangers again had the major share of possession with Dinas content to contain them; at the back Mike Lewis covered well making a number of timely interceptions and Chris Hinam was playing his usual composed game.

Going forward Trottman fired a ball across the keeper but also wide of the post before he laid the ball on for Dunford to shoot over from the edge of the area.

Mid-way through the second-half Dinas got their third, Fowler and Trottman again played their parts in the build-up before a 15 yard shot rebounded off the cross-bar hitting an unfortunate defender on the back before rolling across the goal-line.

Rangers got their goal 5 minutes from time when a cross from the right was headed home by substitute Dominic Pates. Dinas played out the remaining 5 minutes without any major scares.

Next game, Dinas Powys v Cardiff Corries kick off 2:30pm.

For further news and fixtures see the club's web site: www.dinaspowysfc.co.uk.

MW

Barry RFC impress against District side

ON Wednesday last week, the celebration of a century and a quarter of rugby in Barry continued, with a home fixture against a strong Cardiff & District Select.

The evening match was blessed with fine, autumnal weather of sunshine and a strong westerly wind.

Barry started with the twin advantages of wind and gradient. They established a foothold in Cardiff territory from which Hewitson was held up just short of the line. With the pack pressing forward, justice was done when Evans crossed from close range.

The visitors were stung by this reverse and replied with a fine try wide out to level the scores. Both teams were intent on playing open rugby and they succeeded in producing a very enjoyable spectacle.

Ryan fielded a high ball and launched a counter attack, which was rounded-off by Deguara forcing over near the posts. The first half drew to a conclusion with an exchange of tries, the Barry score being credited to hooker Evans.

Barry rang the changes during the second session but their cohesion was undiminished. They were soon further ahead via a try by Poole to which Cardiff responded with one of their own. Their conversion was of the "in-off the post" variety.

Ten minutes in Luke O'Sullivan got onto the score sheet with a fine long-range try. Barry continued playing positive rugby with flair and pace in attack and solidity and concentration in defence.

Cardiff could not match these facets of play and were undone at regular intervals. Tries now came regularly the Barry scorers being Provis, Lee and Dix.

Despite being a non-league fixture, all the Barry players should be pleased with such a promising performance.

Of particular note was the contribution made by the newcomers. There was a good blend of youth and experience that will serve them well in the forthcoming season.

Team: Rhys O'Sullivan, Alun Evans, Hollister, Deguara, Scott, (who also featured against Cardiff) Lee Jones, Hadfield, L.O'Sullivan, Thorne, Hewitson, Alex Evans, Ryan Gooderham, Rhys Gooderham, J.Williams, Ryan. Replacements. D.Williams, Provis, Lee, Taylor, Vidal, Poole, Dix, Hunt, Lundt, Elsworth, Hywel Jones, Rolfe, Rendell, Poole.

CO

PETANQUE JOY FOR SMITH AND ELSTON

A hard-fought final involving former Penarth president Tony Smith and his partner Dave Elston, and their opponents John Barnes and Roger Griffin capped an enthralling day of skilful pétanque at Penarth Petanque Club at the Kymin, Penarth on August 12.

Smith and Ellison eventually triumphed 13-12 to take the Colin Ballet memorial trophy.

Husband and wife team Geoff and Cath Jones took the plate final 13-7 against John Thorne and Pauline Thorne. Prizes were presented by Simone Ballet, whose husband Colin Ballett, the competition commemorates.

It proved to be an intriguing day of high quality pétanque as the piste got faster and faster as it dried in the afternoon sun leading to some interesting pointing techniques.

No pair dominated the morning round-robin session in which three rounds were played – all the teams tasted defeat at some point – with the final groupings worked out on points difference.

But the real winner was the game of pétanque which continues to thrive in Penarth. The club meets each Sunday at 11am at the Kymin and visitors and new members are welcome.

Contact Valerie Falconer (secretary) on 0447800976448 or Lynda Williams (club captain) on 0447976847540, or for more information, visit www.welsh-petanque.org.uk. JS

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Paralysed driver warns: 'Don't buy part worn tyres!'

A MOTORIST paralysed in a horrific car accident when driving on part worn tyres is hoping his story will urge other drivers to think twice about which tyres they choose.

He suffered terrible life-changing injuries and is now permanently paralysed from the top of his chest down, only able to move his arms and neck. He has also experienced emotional scars, often enduring nightmarish flashbacks to that fateful day.

All of the tyres on the car had recently been purchased in a part-worn condition and a police investigation blamed them as a major contributory factor.

He had always bought part worn tyres and replaced them every few months, unaware of the safety risks associated with buying used tyres.

"I thought I was saving money with part worn tyres but I've paid a terrible price; if I knew then what I know now, I would never have bought part worn tyres. Unfortunately, for me it's too late, but I would urge other drivers to steer clear of part worn tyres and always opt for brand new ones," he said.

TyreSafe, a leading tyre safety organisation, recently revealed the alarming findings of an ongoing investigation it carried out with Auto Express magazine into part warn tyres.

Having bought 50 part worn tyres, these were inspected by an independent tyre expert, who found that 98 per cent of the tyres were being sold illegally.

However, of more concern was that over a third of the tyres were found to contain other potentially dangerous forms of damage or non-compliance with part worn tyre legislation.

Stuart Jackson, chairman, TyreSafe: "All tyres suffer from wear over time but TyreSafe always advocates the fitting of brand new tyres as the safest option.

"It's impossible to know the history of part worn tyres and the true extent of any damage which may have occurred inside the tyre. Only by choosing brand new tyres can you be sure that it is free from any hidden dangers and able to offer the safest driving possible."

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THE LAND ROVER DEFENDER TAKES US TO A BYGONE ERA!

SINCE 1948, there has only been one vehicle for serious off-roading – the British-built Land Rover, which has earned a reputation as the most rugged and versatile 4x4 in the world.

Which, of course, is why the British Army, the Fire Brigade and countless aid organisations throughout the world, use them.

The current model was introduced in 2007 and an average 25,000 are sold every year.

"The substantial improvements to the Defender in 2007 transformed its on-road refinement and comfort whilst extending its legendary capability off-road for which Defender is synonymous," says John Edwards, Land Rover Global Brand Director.

"With the introduction of the new 2.2-litre diesel engine and two option packs, the Defender for 2012 now offers greater customer choice than ever before," he adds.

Despite the smaller capacity and reduced emissions, the new engine produces the same power as the outgoing 2.4-litre engine. Performance remains similar, too, though the top speed has been raised to 90mph, compared to 82mph for the previous version.

In Indus silver the riveted aluminium Defender 90 XS Station Wagon tested looks "like a sardine can", according to a work colleague – an unfair and unjustified remark, I say. I feel it's particularly striking, while also being hugely practical as its body will remain rust free for many years to come. It's quite incredible how the design has remained virtually unchanged since its introduction all those years ago.

This three-door vehicle has a very loyal following. In much the same way as motorhome drivers wave at each other so do, I am pleased to report, Land Rover Defender drivers, too.

It makes such a pleasant change to the aggressive competition that is prevalent on Britain's roads today.

Inside, you are transported to a bygone era – again few changes have been made over the last 64 years. It's really refreshing. I sat in the driver's seat for a good 10 minutes trying to figure out where to slot the ignition key.

It's on the left of the steering wheel and rather than turning it away from you, the driver has to turn it towards them.

Space between the front occupants and their doors is tight, too, meaning that resting arms on the door frame isn't particularly comfy.

There aren't any airbags either and the dash is given to practicality rather than design, but it's attractive in a Tonka toy sense of the word.

The passenger grab bar is certainly appreciated by my wife during our cross-country jaunt. Its windscreen wipers remind me of an old Mini or a classic car of that era, quite small and slow.

These could be improved for serious offroaders, I feel, who need wipers more capable of removing mud from the screen, but if there haven't been any complaints over the decades, then who am I to question?

Modern Land Rovers get carpets and leather-trimmed seats. The test model is even fitted with air con, electric windows and a CD player.

The Defender will seat four adults in comfort and the rear seats incorporate an easy-to-use spring-assisted fold mechanism, useful when they need to be moved out of the way for carrying large or awkward loads.

Driving a Land Rover is an entirely unique experience. Thankfully, there is power steering these days but the handbrake is awkwardly placed at the side of the driver's left leg, requiring them to lean forward to operate it, quite a chore when performing a hill start.

The 2.2-litre diesel unit is vocal and the stereo has to be turned up to drown it out. Apparently, the lower first gear provides a low crawl speed, making towing on-road and off-road easier. When making a gear change on the six-speed manual box there is a very distinctive sound as the gears slot into place. Generally, gear changes are stiff rather than smooth.

Bear in mind that the previous week I was testing a top-of-the-range Range Rover Autobiography where everything was electrically operated and adjusted.

Driving the much more basic Land Rover is an absolute contrast, as you will see at testdrives.biz. But in many ways it is a more enjoyable driving experience as there are fewer bells and whistles.

Although it's permanent four-wheel drive, the high ratio for road driving and low ratio for off-roading are manually operated by a lever next to the gearbox and that's generally all the Land Rover driver has to worry about.

This lever can be changed at speeds of up to five mph, and the Land Rover will travel at up to 40 mph when in low ratio, making it a formidable vehicle and an absolute must during amber weather warnings, which hit the UK during the test.

It's interesting to note that the Defender's facia is based on a single, large moulding supported on a robust steel rail to help eliminate squeaks and rattles and this seems to work very well indeed.

A 60-litre fuel tank sees the Land Rover cover around 330 miles from full and you can see why hardened Land Rover enthusiasts fit a second tank to enhance its range.

Overall, though, it is easy to see why the keenly-priced Land Rover Defender is so popular.

On the road price: £29,500 including VAT.
Engine: 2.2 litre diesel.
Transmission: manual six speed.
Fuel consumption: combined 27.7 mpg.
CO2 Emissions: 269 g/km.

Watch the video at: www.testdrives.biz.

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GEM sport

Disappointing end to the season for Cowbridge seconds

So the 2012 season came to a conclusion with Cowbridge travelling to Carmarthen, still with the chance of being champions.

As the Cowbridge side made the trip west along the M4, the weather began to close in and upon arrival in Carmarthen there was rain in the air, black clouds sweeping across the sky and a strong breeze; not an unusual occurrence this summer.

The captain won the toss and had no hesitation in bowling first. The Carmarthen openers got off to a good start, punishing the bad deliveries and running well between the wicket.

Despite some tight bowling from A Qasim and John Gilbert ,the score continued to rise. John finally struck to remove one of the Carmarthen openers but this unfortunately did not mean the run rate lessened.

Some pressure was applied by the ever consistent Ian Evans, and by debutant Michael Hordley, who bowled very well against a strong opposition, but this was not enough to stop Carmarthen posting 240 off their 50 overs.

This was a sizeable total and Cowbridge knew they would have to bat well to stand any chance of overhauling it.

The Cowbridge innings got off to a slow start as the openers, Chris Ross and Jonty Webb, found the going tough against some consistent and accurate bowling; both were to fall cheaply in the end.

This was unfortunately the story of the Cowbridge innings with no batsman, apart from Michael Hordley who backed up his performance with the ball with 39 well-made runs, applying themselves in an effort to build an innings.

Eventually Cowbridge were bowled out for 116.

To end the season in this manner was extremely disappointing. However, there were a number of positives this season, such as the bowling of Ian Evans, Harri Collier and John Gilbert, plus the bowling of Matthew Keating, who at only 13 has an excellent future in front of him.

The mainstay of the batting was Chris Ross with Ian Evans providing useful runs throughout the season along with the captain. The captain would like to thank all those people who have supported the side throughout the season and would like to extend special thanks to Jeff Davies for having been the side's scorer.

Cowbridge know that next year will be a lot tougher, being in the first division, but are looking forward to the challenge – roll on 2013.

JW

SAINTS JUST EDGED OUT BY CHAMPIONS

After battling with just 10 men last week, Sunday Saints welcomed back Rob West, Ashley Gifford, Jon Ball, Mark Pickering and Craig Howells, with last season's top scorer Phil Morgan returning on the bench for this game with last season's dominant first division champions, Red Cow, in a Sunday league Premier Division clash.

Saints looked to frustrate their opponents early on by denying space and playing the territory game with long balls. Craig Howells worked tirelessly up top but was often left isolated.

Cow tried to play football but Saints worked hard to close them down and prevent them playing, and began to force them into errors.

Gifford then earned himself a yellow card after a war of words with the ref and a crutching tackle on the winger.

Saints pumped the ball forward and Casey played in Howells but his shot squirmed wide and Saints had some belief about themselves.

Then Red Cow got some in themselves as they started to dominate possession and only Lewis on the line prevented them from scoring.

The away side could sense a goal and made the breakthrough with a pass to the striker, and he tucked the ball away past Richards.

The Cow almost doubled their lead when a freak long free kick looped over Richards and struck the base of the post before being cleared to safety.

Saints then came back as Howells saw a shot blocked and Lewis fired over the bar before Lewis' free kick was headed in by West but ruled out correctly for offside.

Saints went in at half time happy to still be in the game as Richards was called on to make a fine Schmeichel-esque save to deny the forward at close range.

In the second half, Saints switched emphasise from long ball to playing ball into feet with the introduction of Phil Morgan.

Saints looked sharp and hungry and Howells worked well off Morgan, who crossed early but Howells' header flashed wide.

Saints nearly shot themselves in the foot as the Cow front man was tripped in the area and a penalty was awarded. The defender taking it, however, struck the spot kick wide and Saints breathed a sigh of relief.

That was the motivation for Saints and they took full control of the game and looked a constant threat.

Howells continued to harry their back line and forced their defenders into mistakes and a loose clearance landed to Lewis, whose long pass over the top put in Morgan and he took control of the ball on the right and fired low across the keeper into the net to level for the home side.

Saints were bouncing now and pushed on. They looked to take the lead as Morgan again found himself with space down the right. He squared the ball to Stretton, who had time and space but fired inches wide from the edge of the area.

Saints came forward again and Stretton was brought down on the edge of the area out on the left, Lewis chipped the free kick in and the keeper got a fist to it but it dropped at the far post and a goal mouth scramble ensued but the away side cleared their lines.

The resulting corner was whipped in by Lewis and flashed across the goal mouth but nobody could get a decisive touch.

Collings tackled hard in the centre and won possession for Lewis to find Morgan who teed up Pickering, but he side footed over from the right hand side of the area. Saints were building momentum and felt the goal had to come soon as now the away side were arguing among themselves.

Saints thought they had found the breakthrough when Lewis played in Howells and as he skipped past the keeper, the keeper brought the striker down for what looked a stone wall penalty but the protests were waved away by the ref.

Saints roared on and forced a corner, Lewis whipped the ball in and Morgan cleverly headed in to put Saints in front with minutes remaining.

From the kick off, however, Saints celebrations were short lived as Cow won a free kick 25 yards from goal.

They struck the free kick with venom and Richards did well to parry the stinging drive but the rebound was nodded in by the unmarked forward.

Saints thought they might have won it late on as Lewis chipped in free kick which was pushed onto the bar by the keeper, and then Howells' header was well saved to deny Saints all three points.

A marvellous display by the Sunday Saints as they can feel very hard done by not to have won the game. Saints will be lifted by this display as they look forward to the visit of rivals of the last two season Maerdy FC who come into the game off a 4-2 opening day win over Red Cow but an astonishing 8-5 loss to Saint Patrick Rovers this week.

Many great displays this week, including Ball, Lewis and two goal Morgan but man of the match goes to Craig Howells for a non-stop display and constant threat to the visitors defence. He showed what an asset he will be to the Sunday Saints this season.

Sunday Saints FC – Richards (c), Morgans (off 45 mins), Gifford, West, Ball, Lewis, Collings, Bowring, Pickering, Casey (off 45 mins), Howells – Subs – Morgan (on 45mins), Stretton (on 45 mins).

HD

Lady bowlers' shield victory

COWBRIDGE men's bowlers' only game of the week against Bridgend Municipal was cancelled, so it was left to the Cowbridge lady bowlers to play their only match at home against ladies from the Prince of Wales, Porthcawl club in a Cowbridge Challenge Shield game.

This resulted in good wins on all three rinks with a final score of 75~20 shots to Cowbridge.

Skip Judy Springett's team – Lynda Wilson, Janet Morton and Sue Flower scored 28–5; skip Joy Woolford's team – Kay Edwards, Pat Holdsworth and Joan Bradley scored 25–9 while skip Shirley Wilkinson's team – Diane Purnell, Helena Snelling and Pat Davey, scored 22–6.

This weekend we held our annual triples competition with 30 members making up 10 teams. Four teams had to play a preliminary round Saturday morning and the two winning rinks joined six bye teams to play a straight knockout competition.

Skip Peter Launder, Lynda Wilson and Dorothy Pritchard beat skip Shirley Wilkinson, Danny Powell and Karen Every-Clayton, and in the second match, skip Dennis Snelling, Janet Morton and Alan Wallace beat skip Judy Springett, Eric Sewell and Clive Pritchard.

In the quarter-finals, played in the afternoon, Dennis' team beat Peter's Team by 16-12 shots. Skip Norman Wilkinson, Diane Purnell and Phillip Woosman had an easy win of 28-1, beating skip Steve Dickens, Glenys Davies and Sylvia Hole.

Skip Byron Richards, John Hunt and Guy Morton beat Lin Wallace, Pat Holdsworth and Helena Snelling by 18-10.

Skip Ron Frayling, Colin Wilson and John Hunt beat skip John Trott, Len Taylor and Gerwyn Watkins by 13-7.

The four winning teams played in the semi-finals on Sunday morning in good weather, with Dennis' team having a good win of 25-5 against Byron's team.

In a much closer game, Ron's team beat Norman's team15-13.

The sun still shone in the afternoon for the final game. Dennis, Janet and Alan took an early lead of 19-3, but Ron, Jean and Colin fought back hard and were only losing 19-14, but on the penultimate end Dennis' team picked up a 4 to finish the match winners by 23-16.

Next weekend is our club's competitions finals and we are hoping the sun will shine for us.

NJW

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Cowbridge away for first match

IT hardly seems four months ago that Cowbridge completed their fixtures in Division 5 South Central, finishing third.

Now, with promotion finally confirmed, the challenge of Division 4 South East beckons. The visit to Pontycymer (legendary Welsh prop John Lloyd one of their famous sons) for the first league match of the season on Saturday promises to be a special one, as they celebrate their 125th anniversary.

Pontycymer finished mid-table last season and Cowbridge will be looking forward to getting the season off to a winning start.

Pre-season training has been going well but as always, more players are needed if we are to regularly run a second XV so if you are interested, contact team manager Dave Breed on 07986 997016.

The support home and away last season was fantastic so let's continue with the same this season – it's much appreciated by the players and coaching staff..

Club members were greatly saddened to hear of the untimely death of our good friend Sara Cater.. Sara, wife of Bob, mother of David and Abi and sister to Huw and Chris, battled her long illness with typical courage – we send our thoughts and best wishes to the family.

RV

Local bridge club results

VALE of Glamorgan Bridge Club, Monday August 20 (17 pairs):

1st. Mary Moore & Tiffany Beard 66.69 per cent; 2nd. John Beard & Liam Sheridan 63.64; 3rd. Miriam Hendran & Simon Gottschalk 59.58; 4th. Mari Jones & Teri Pollard 53.42; 5th. Barrie Waite & Graham Norris, 53.30; 6th. Vida Halford & Glyn Williams, 52.26.

Please note that the autumn Welsh Bridge simultaneous pairs event takes place on Monday at 7pm.

Cowbridge & District Bridge Club, Tuesday August 21 (14 pairs):

1st. Mearl Owen & Debbie Rosevear 60.00 per cent; 2nd= Barbara & Colin Easterbrook 59.17; 2nd.= Glenda Roberts & Amy Owen 59.17; 4th. Mary Thomas & Dennis Barker 57.54; 5th. Myrtle Hansard & Hugh Williams 53.75; 6th. Pam Higgs & Brenda Grove, 53.17.

The annual AGM will take place on Tuesday September 18 at 7.30pm followed by a bridge party.

BS

TIM VAUGHAN'S PERTH TREBLE!

HAVE horses, will travel – that's the motto of Aberthin's Tim Vaughan, who travelled to far flung Perth, and had plenty to smile about on the long way home after saddling three winners.

He won with former point-to-pointers *Ruttan Lake*, *Bingo Des Mottes* and *Skylancer*.

Aidan Coleman was aboard *Ruttan Lake* and Richard Johnson, who also won the opener on *Cosmic Wonder*, rode Tim's other winners.

Local horse racing trainers also did well at the two-day Ffos Las meeting last week.

On Thursday, Tim Vaughan won the opener with *Miracle House* (Richard Johnson) and Bridgends's John Flint took the closing event with 7-1 chance *First Beauty,* which was partnered by his son Tom.

Robbie Williams, riding 12-1 chance *Dancewiththedevil*, trained by his grandfather Bernard Llewellyn at Bargoed, gained a neck victory over *Praxiteles* and on the Friday, Llancarfan's Evan Williams was successful with 12-1 chance *Simarian*, which came home 13 lengths ahead of *Royal Scoundrel*.

Simarian was ridden by stable jockey Paul Moloney.

BRIAN LEE